



CHILDREN'S DIGEST

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RASHTRA DEEPIKA
**CHILDREN'S
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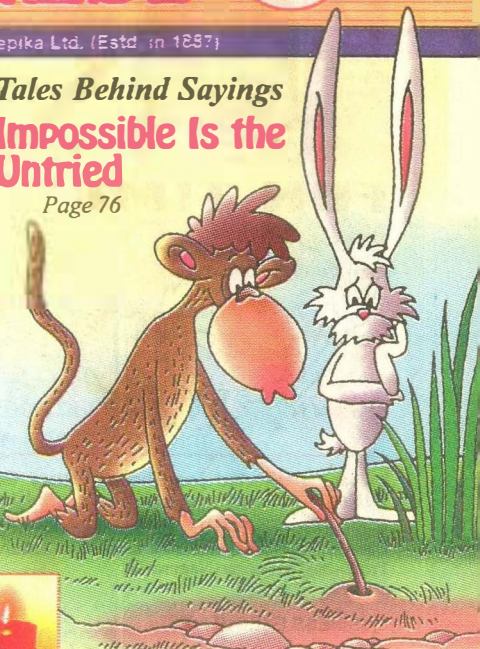
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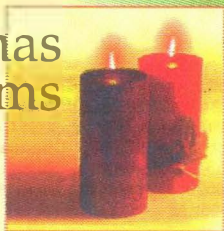
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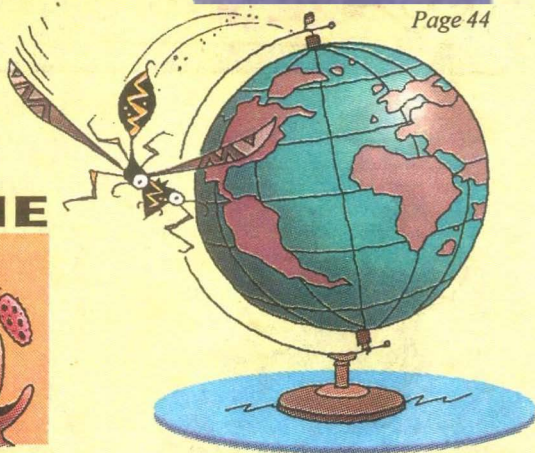
Let us be grateful to people who make us happy; they are the charming gardeners who make our souls blossom.

- Marcel Proust



Young Talents

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FUN TIME



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Catchy Quotes

- When we see men of a contrary character, we should turn inwards and examine ourselves.

- Confucius

- A picture is a poem without words.

- Horace

- Your vision will become clear only when you can look into your own heart. Who looks outside, dreams; who looks inside, awakes.

- Carl Jung

- If wrinkles must be written upon our brow, let them not be written upon the heart; the spirit should not grow old.

- James A. Garfield

- We cannot direct the wind, but we can adjust our sails.

- Anonymous

- The difference between a smart person and a wise person is that a smart person knows what to say and a wise person knows whether or not to say it.

- Anonymous

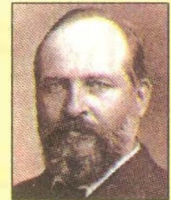
- Blessed is he who has learned to admire but not envy, to follow but not imitate, to praise but not flatter, and to lead but not manipulate.

- William Arthur Ward



- The ultimate measure of a man is not where he stands in moments of comfort and convenience, but where he stands in times of challenge and controversy.

- Martin Luther King, Jr.

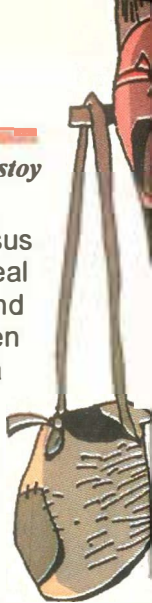


Stories for Little Angels

- Leo Tolstoy

One night a cobbler dreamed that the next day Jesus was coming to visit him. The dream seemed so real that he got up very early the next morning and hurried to the woods, where he gathered green boughs to decorate his shop for the arrival of so great a guest.

He waited all morning, but to his disappointment, his shop remained quiet, except for an old man who limped up to the door and asked if he could come in for a few



The Shoemaker's Dream

minutes of warmth within the shop. While the man was resting, the cobbler took a new pair of shoes from his shelf and saw to it that the stranger was wearing them as he went on his way.

Throughout the afternoon the cobbler waited, but his only visitor was an elderly woman. He had seen her struggling under a heavy load of firewood, and he invited her, too, into his shop to rest. Then he discovered that for two days she had



Did You Know?

By swallowing water, the Pufferfish becomes too big for other fish to swallow.



Page

nothing to eat; he saw to it that she had a nourishing meal before she went on her way.

As night began to fall, the cobbler heard a child crying outside his door. The child was lost and afraid. The cobbler went out, soothed the youngster's tears and, with the little hand in his, took the child home.

When he reached home, the cobbler was sad. He was convinced that while he had been away he had missed the visit of his Lord. Now he lived through the moments as he had imagined them: the knock, the latch lifted, the radiant face, the offered cup. He would have kissed the hands where the nails had been, washed the feet where the spikes had entered; then the Lord would have sat and

talked to him. In his anguish, the cobbler cried out, "Why is it, Lord, that Your feet delay? Have You forgotten that this was the day?"

Then, in the silence he heard a soft voice:

*"Lift up your heart, for I have kept My word.
Three times I came to your friendly door;
Three times My shadow was on your floor.
I was the man with the bruised feet;
I was the woman you gave to eat.
I was the child on the homeless street."*

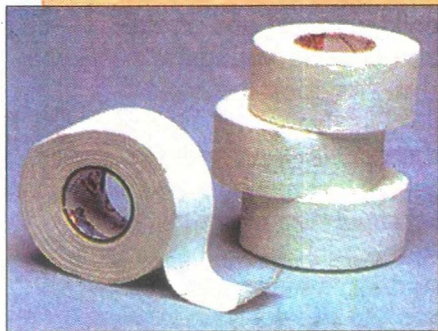
Adhesive Tape

Richard G. Drew (1899-1980) invented masking tape and clear adhesive tape (also called cellophane tape or Scotch tape). Drew was an engineer for the 3M (Minnesota Mining) company.

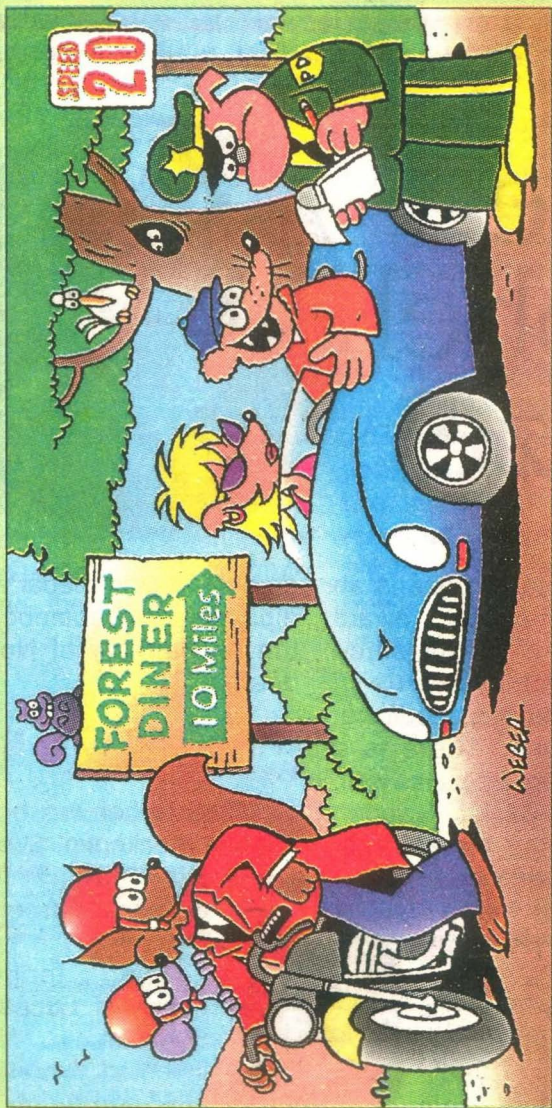
Drew's first tape invention was a masking tape made for painters in 1923 (this tape was designed to help painters paint a straight border between two colours). This early masking tape was a wide paper tape with adhesive on only the edges of the tape - not in the middle. Drew made an improved tape called Scotch (TM) Brand

Cellulose Tape in 1930. This tape was a clear, all-purpose adhesive tape that was soon adopted worldwide.

The first tape dispenser with a built-in cutting edge was invented in 1932 by John A. Borden, another 3M employee.



Slylock Fox



Officer Mutt accused Reeky Rat of speeding. Reeky claims he hasn't exceeded the speed limit since leaving the Forest Diner 15 minutes ago. How does Slylock Fox know the rat is lying?
(See page 94)

The Nobel Prize



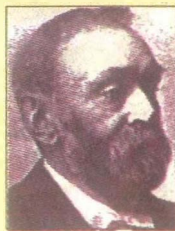
The Nobel Prize is an international award given yearly since 1901 for achievements in physics, chemistry, medicine, and literature. There is a Nobel Prize for Peace as well. In 1968, the Bank of Sweden also instituted the Prize in Economic Sciences in memory of Alfred Nobel, founder of the Nobel Prize.

The Prize Winners are announced in October every year. They receive their awards (a prize

amount, a gold medal and a diploma) on December 10, the anniversary of Nobel's death.

Alfred Nobel – The Man Behind the Prize

Alfred Nobel was born in 1833 in Stockholm, Sweden.



Alfred Nobel

His family was descended from Olof Rudbeck, a well-known technical genius of 17th century Sweden. Nobel invented dynamite in 1866 and later built up companies and

laboratories in more than 20 countries all over the world. On November 27, 1895, Nobel signed his last will providing for the establishment of the Nobel Prize. He died of cerebral haemorrhage on December 10, 1896.

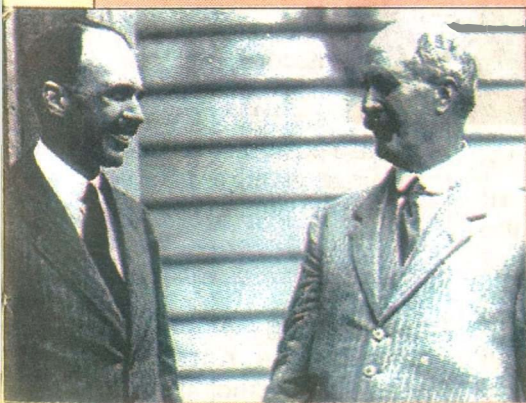
Excerpt from the Will of Alfred Nobel

"The whole of my remaining realizable estate shall be dealt with in the following way: the capital, invested in safe securities by my executors, shall constitute a fund, the interest on which

776 Nobel Prize Winners!

758 individuals and 18 organizations have been awarded the Nobel Prize. Some Laureates and organizations have been awarded the Prize more than once.

shall be annually distributed in the form of prizes to those who, during the preceding year, shall have conferred the greatest benefit on mankind. The said interest shall be divided into five equal parts, which shall be



William Lawrence Bragg (left) and William Henry Bragg.

The youngest Nobel Prize Winner

The youngest person to receive the Nobel Prize was Lawrence Bragg, who was 25 years old when he received the Physics Prize along with his father Henry Bragg, in 1915. They are the only father-son partnership to have shared this honour.

apportioned as follows: one part to the person who shall have made the most important discovery or invention within the field of physics; one part to the person who shall have made the most important chemical discovery or improvement; one part to the person who shall have made the most important discovery within the domain of physiology or medicine; one part to the person who shall have produced in the field of literature the most outstanding work in an ideal direction; and one part to the person who shall have done the most or the best work for fraternity between nations, for the abolition or reduction of standing armies and for the holding and promotion of peace congresses. The prizes for physics and chemistry shall be awarded by the Swedish Academy of Sciences; that

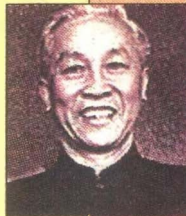


Two winners who declined the Nobel Prize!



Jean-Paul Sartre, awarded the 1964 Nobel Prize in Literature, declined the prize because he had consistently turned down all official honours.

Le Duc Tho was awarded the 1973 Nobel Peace Prize jointly with US Secretary of



State Henry Kissinger. This was for negotiating the Vietnam peace accord. Le Duc Tho however, said that he was

not in a position to accept the Prize, giving as his reason the situation in Vietnam.

for physiology or medical works by the Karolinska Institute in Stockholm; that for literature by the Academy in Stockholm, and that for champions of peace by a

committee of five persons to be elected by the Norwegian Storting. It is my express wish that in awarding the prizes no consideration be given to the nationality of the candidates, but that the most worthy shall receive the prize, whether he be Scandinavian or not."



The oldest Nobel Prize Winner

This was Raymond Davis Jr. who was nearly 88 years old when he was awarded the Physics Prize in 2002.

The Nobel Foundation

The Nobel Foundation is a private institution established in 1900 based on the will of Alfred Nobel. The Foundation manages the assets made available through the will for the awarding of the Nobel Prize in Physics, Chemistry, Physiology or Medicine, Literature and Peace. It represents the Nobel institutions externally and administers informational activities and arrangements for the presentation of the Nobel Prize. The Foundation also administers Nobel symposia in the different prize areas.



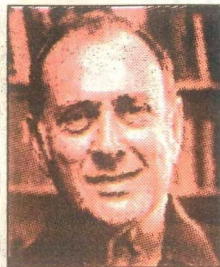
The Children's Digest wishes all its readers and well-wishers a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.





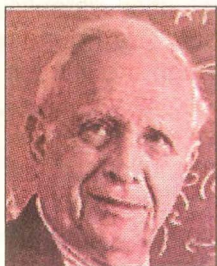
**Nobel
Prize
Winners
2005**

Literature



Harold Pinter

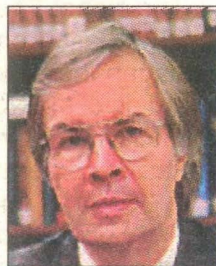
Physics



**Roy J. Glauber,
USA**

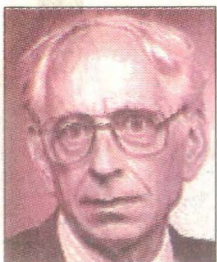


**John L. Hall,
USA**



**Theodor W.
Hänsch, Germany**

Chemistry



**Yves Chauvin,
France**



**Robert H. Grubbs,
USA**



**Richard R. Schrock,
USA**

Physiology or Medicine



Barry J. Marshall,
Australia

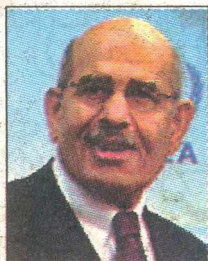


J. Robin Warren,
Australia

Peace

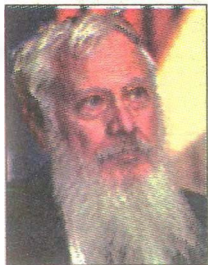


International Atomic
Energy Agency
(IAEA)



Mohamed El Baradei,
Director General of IAEA

Economic Sciences



Robert J. Aumann,
Israel

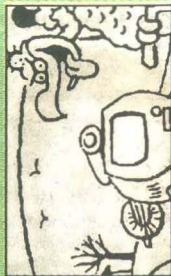
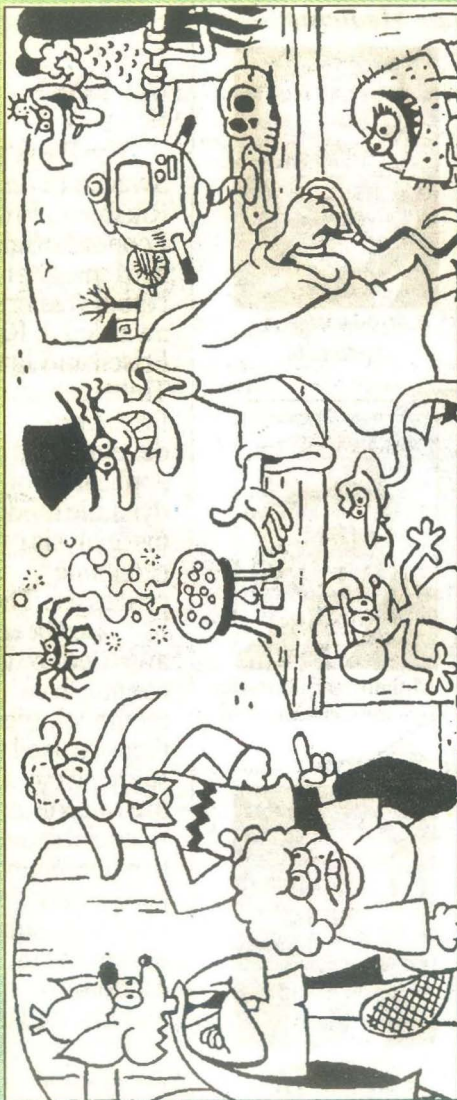


Thomas C.
Schelling, *USA*

Did You Know?

The Bank of Sweden (Sveriges Riksbank) Prize in Economic Sciences in Memory of Alfred Nobel was first awarded to Ragnar Frisch and Jan Tinbergen in 1969 for their development and application of dynamic models in the analysis of economic processes. The Prize has since been awarded to works ranging from methodologies and theories used in studying the efficient use of economic and financial resources, to macroeconomic performance and economic policy, development economics, international trade and the role of information.

Try It...



Which piece on the right is slightly different from the above scene?

(See page 94)

Unity and Integrity



Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel

(31st October, 1875 - 15th December, 1950)

"We are all knit together by bonds of bloodNone can segregate us no impassable barriers can be set up between us."

— Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel

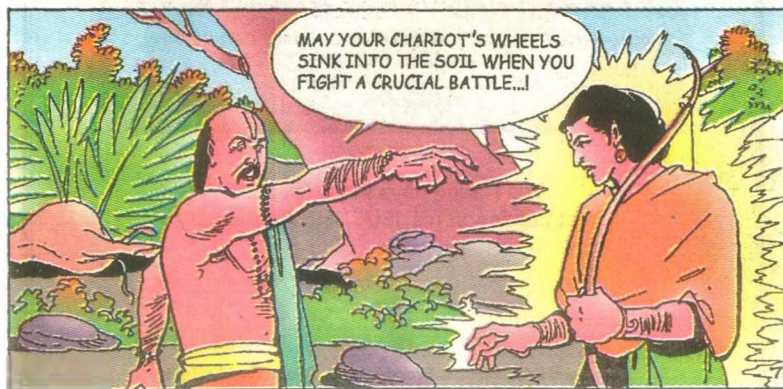
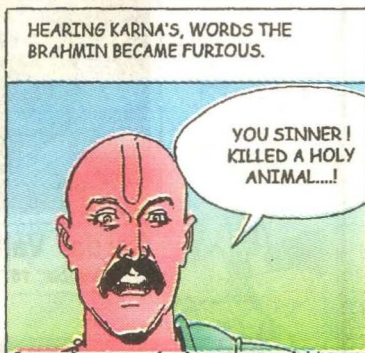
The Nation pays tribute to the
Great Leader on his 130th Birth Anniversary

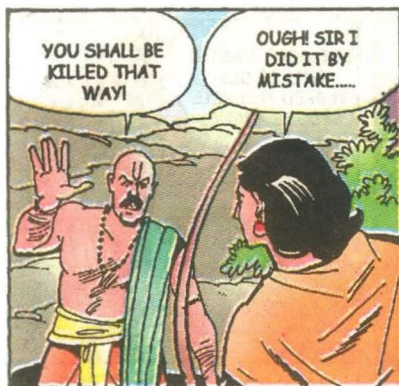


Ministry of Information & Broadcasting, Government of India

KARNA

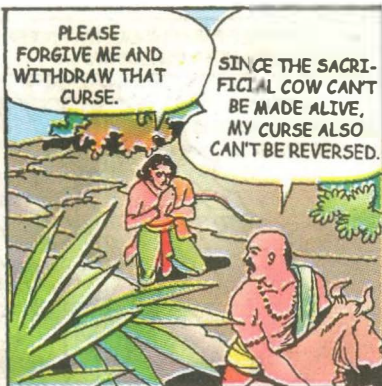
HEARING THE DEATH - CRY OF THE COW, ITS OWNER RUSHED TO THE SPOT.





YOU SHALL BE
KILLED THAT
WAY!

OUGH! SIR I
DID IT BY
MISTAKE.....



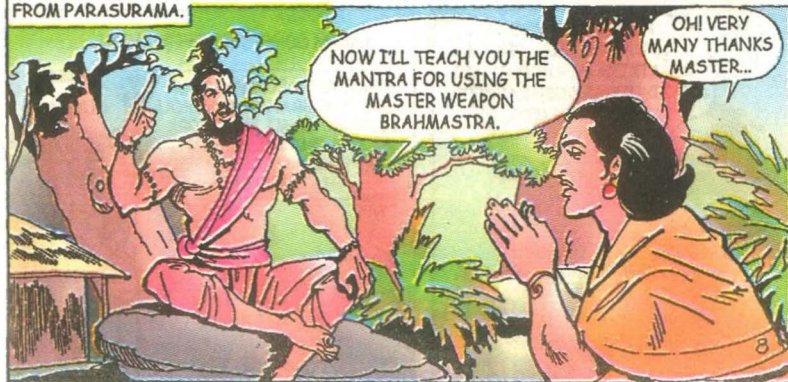
PLEASE
FORGIVE ME AND
WITHDRAW THAT
CURSE.

SINCE THE SACRI-
FICIAL COW CAN'T
BE MADE ALIVE,
MY CURSE ALSO
CAN'T BE REVERSED.

KARNA BECAME VERY SAD. BUT HE DIDN'T TELL ANYONE
ABOUT THE CURSE.



TRYING TO FORGET THAT UNHAPPY INCIDENT, KARNA WENT ON LEARNING MARTIAL ARTS
FROM PARASURAMA.



NOW I'LL TEACH YOU THE
MANTRA FOR USING THE
MASTER WEAPON
BRAHMASTRA.

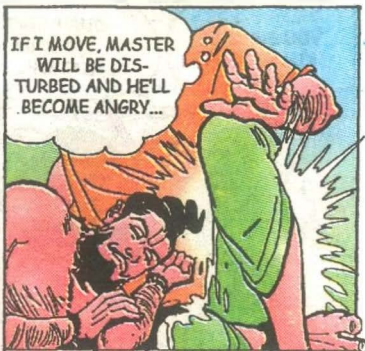
OH! VERY
MANY THANKS
MASTER...

ONE DAY WHILE PARASURAMA WAS SLEEPING WITH HIS HEAD ON KARNA'S LAP.....

OUCH! A
BEETLE IS STINGING
MY THIGH.....



IF I MOVE, MASTER
WILL BE DIS-
TURBED AND HE'LL
BECOME ANGRY...

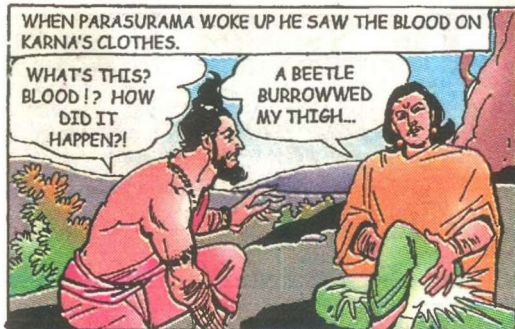


BLOOD BEGAN TO FLOW FROM THE
STING WOUND.

WHEN PARASURAMA WOKE UP HE SAW THE BLOOD ON
KARNA'S CLOTHES.

WHAT'S THIS?
BLOOD!? HOW
DID IT
HAPPEN?!

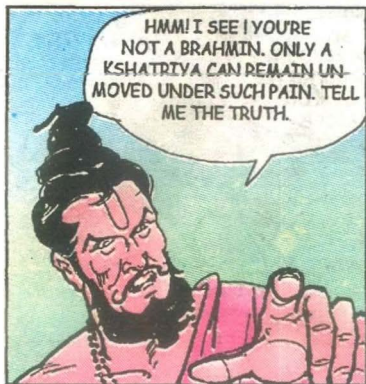
A BEETLE
BURROWED
MY THIGH...



NOT TO DISTURB
YOUR SLEEP, I
DIDN'T MOVE.



HMM! I SEE! YOU'RE
NOT A BRAHMIN. ONLY A
KSHATRIYA CAN REMAIN UN-
MOVED UNDER SUCH PAIN. TELL
ME THE TRUTH.



KARNA CONFESSED EVERYTHING.

SINCE YOU DECEIVED YOUR
GURU, THE BRAHMASTRA YOU
LEARNED SHALL NOT WORK
AT THE CRUCIAL MOMENT.
YOU WILL NOT REMEMBER
THAT MANTRA.

OUGH!



KARNA DEPARTED FROM PARASURAMA'S PLACE IN GREAT SORROW.



UGH! WHAT AN ACCURSED FATE IS MINE!

RETURNING TO HASTINAPURA, KARNA CONTINUED TO PRACTISE ARCHERY.



I'LL LEARN AS MUCH AS POSSIBLE.

AS ARCHERY TRAINING WAS COMPLETED



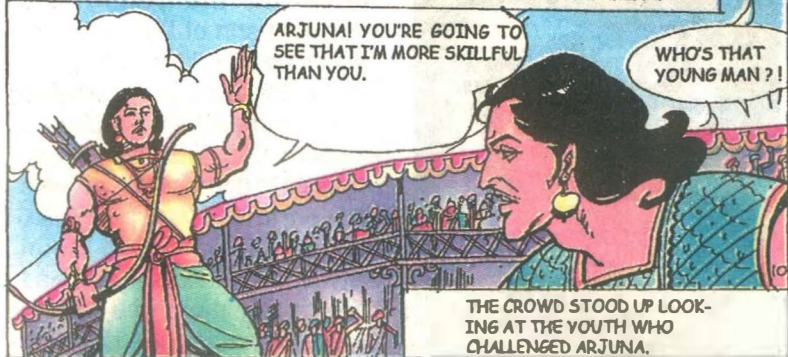
NOW I FEEL ABLE ENOUGH TO DEFEAT ARJUNA.

THE DAY FOR A TEST AND EXHIBITION OF THE ARCHERY SKILLS OF THE PRINCES ARRIVED. A HUGE CROWD GATHERED. ARJUNA DISPLAYED SUPERHUMAN SKILL WITH HIS WEAPONS.



WOW! WONDERFUL!

AT THE CLOSE OF THE DAY, KARNA SUDDENLY ENTERED THE ARENA.



ARJUNA! YOU'RE GOING TO SEE THAT I'M MORE SKILLFUL THAN YOU.

WHO'S THAT YOUNG MAN?!

THE CROWD STOOD UP LOOKING AT THE YOUTH WHO CHALLENGED ARJUNA.

(To be continued)

Savitri's Mission

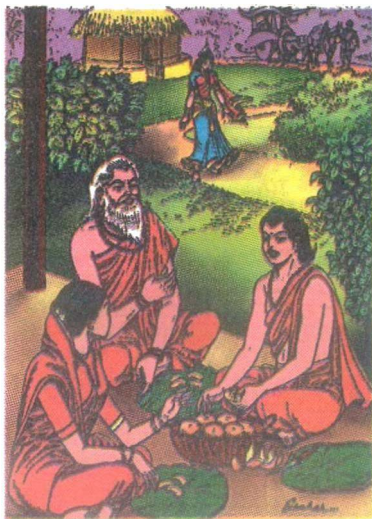
King Aswapati of Madra, was worried. Ironically, his worry was caused by the one who had brought him the greatest joy – his daughter, Savitri.

Aswapati was a good king. However, he was unhappy because he had no children. Finally, he began a rigorous penance. After 18 years, his penance bore fruit and Goddess Savitri blessed him with a beautiful daughter. The delighted parents had named her Savitri.

As she grew up, Savitri resembled the Goddess of Prosperity in all her splendour. Intelligent and courageous, she was loved by all. No one could hold a candle to her in beauty or wisdom. Soon the time came for her to get married. However, the fond parents encountered an unexpected problem. No marriage proposals came in, as none of the eligible bachelors considered themselves worthy of Savitri!

The king asked Savitri to find a suitable husband for herself. She travelled far and wide and met many kings and princes. Finally, her choice fell on Satyavan, the young and intelligent son of Dyumatsena. He had been a virtuous king, but had lost his eyesight. An envious neighbour had then usurped his kingdom. Dyumatsena had then repaired to a forest with his wife and son, to lead an ascetic's life. Savitri had chanced upon Satyavan in the forest, and had been deeply impressed by him.

Lost in reminiscences, King Aswapati's brows clouded as he



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recollected how Savitri had entered his chamber, radiant with happiness.

The king at the time had a distinguished visitor – Sage Narada, the all-knowing celestial wanderer. The princess told them about her choice. The king was happy. But to his surprise, he noticed that Narada obviously did not share his enthusiasm.

“O king, you could not have asked for a better son-in-law than Satyavan. He is truthful, generous and modest. But...” Narada paused.

“What is it?” the king anxiously queried.

“Satyavan is fated to die exactly a year from now! That’s his destiny and not all his good deeds can change it.”

The words fell on the parents’ ears like a thunderbolt. How could they allow their only child, the apple of their eye, to be widowed so young?

Savitri, who received the news with surprising equanimity, respectfully but firmly informed her parents that she would not change her choice. For her, it was Satyavan or none else. The

force of her determination took the king and queen by surprise. Sage Narada sided with her, advising the king to go ahead with the wedding.

This, then, was the king’s sorrow. His bright, beautiful daughter had condemned herself to a miserable life – a brief year of joy, followed by a lifetime of grief.

King Aswapati formally approached Satyavan’s father with a proposal, which was happily accepted. Savitri and Satyavan were married.

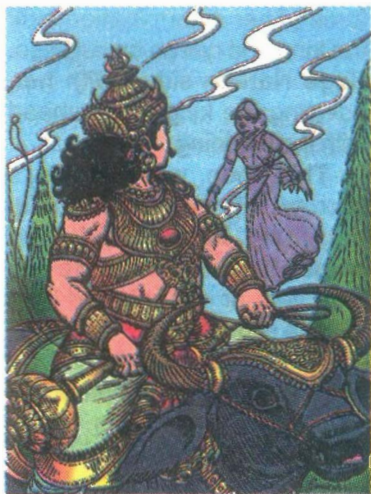
Savitri was as much at home in the humble hermitage as she had been in the splendour of her

father’s palace. Savitri was very happy.

But she always remembered Narada’s prediction. Time flew past in a happy idyll and all too soon, the dreaded day dawned.

That morning, Savitri looked weak and exhausted. She had been fasting for three days, and had spent the previous night in prayers. As Satyavan got ready to





leave for the woods with his axe, she asked him, "May I go with you today?"

Satyavan was surprised. Savitri had never before expressed a wish to accompany him. He tried to dissuade her, but Savitri insisted that she wanted to see the forest. At this juncture, his mother intervened, "She hasn't asked for anything ever since she came here; why don't you take her?"

Hand in hand, Savitri and Satyavan walked through the woods. Ignorant of the impending tragedy, Satyavan happily showed his wife the beauties of the forest.

Satyavan was chopping wood for a while, when he suddenly

complained, "My body aches all over! Let me rest awhile." He lay down with his head on Savitri's lap.

Her heart missed a beat as she feared the worst. Satyavan's body had grown cold.

Suddenly, Savitri perceived a luminous figure approaching them. He was Yama, the god of Death. She fearfully asked, "O Lord, what do you want here?"

Yama answered, "Princess, you see me only by the power of your prayer and fasting. Your husband's allotted time on earth is over. I now have to carry his soul away."

He then took Satyavan's soul and turned to travel back to his domain.

Savitri rose and followed him. Yama rode swiftly through the woods, while Savitri struggled to keep up.

At last, he turned to her and said, "Savitri, you cannot come to the land of the dead!"

Undaunted, Savitri replied, "Lord, I know you must take my husband. But my duty as his wife is to stay beside him. We are one in life and in death. So, take me as well."

"I can't do that," said Yama. "But I admire your loyalty. I'll grant you a boon – ask for

anything you like, except your husband's life!"

With practical wisdom, Savitri at once asked, "Grant that my father-in-law regains his eyesight."

"Granted," answered Yama and he continued his journey. But Savitri still followed him.

Yama finally stopped and questioned her; Savitri repeated that her place was at her husband's side.

"You are steadfast, indeed!" said Yama. He offered her two more boons, at which Savitri asked for the restoration of her father-in-law's kingdom, and for sons to be born to her father so that she might have siblings. This, too, was granted.

Savitri continued her pursuit of Yama, through grasslands and over hills. In exasperation, Yama finally promised her one last boon, on condition that she would stop following him. Savitri

requested for a hundred sons.

Yama knew he was outwitted. To grant this boon, he would have to return her husband to her!

Admitting defeat, he said, "Virtuous lady, your intelligence has won your husband's life. I grant your wish. You and your husband shall live long!" He then vanished, and Savitri returned to where Satyavan lay.

Satyavan was just sitting up, asking, "Have I been sleeping for long? I had such a strange dream, in which a dark figure was carrying me away!"

"Much happened while you were asleep," answered Savitri. "But I'll tell you everything later; for now, we have to return home. Your parents will be waiting for us!"

Hand in hand, they happily walked towards the glorious new life that awaited them.

-Retold by Rajee Raman



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Wheat Rust Re-emerges in Africa



The photomicrograph above is a fluorescent image of a stained thin section of wheat showing a brick-red pustule captured erupting from the leaf surface.

B iologists warn that a new strain of wheat rust which has emerged in Africa can wipe out 10 percent of the world's wheat production if it is not checked. This disease caused by a fungus *Puccinia graminis* produces a rusty colour on the stem of wheat and destroys it.

Wheat rust caused severe grain losses and famines during the early 20th century. Since 1950s scientists have created disease-resistant,

high-yielding strains of wheat that seemed to hold the plant pest in check. But in 1999 an exceptionally virulent strain of the fungus emerged in Uganda. It re-emerged in Kenya in 2001 and in Ethiopia two years later. The fungus is spread by spores carried by the wind.

Daily Activities Can Help Reduce Weight

According to Dr. James Levine, associate professor

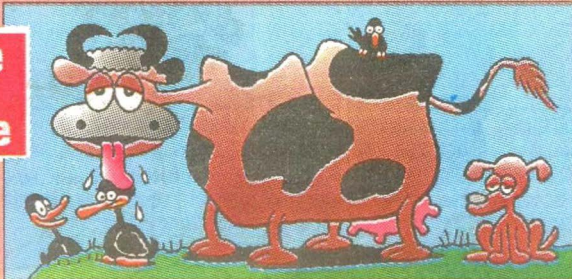
of medicine at the world-famous Mayo Clinic, the usual activities of everyday life such as climbing a few steps, walking to your car or the grocery, can help in reducing weight. He names those activities Non-Exercise Activity Thermogenesis (NEAT). He is the leader of a study which showed that doing a lot of these activities can burn off as much as 350 calories a day. Needless to say, deliberate exercises done at the gym are not included in this calculation.

Metal-eating Bacteria

Researchers are

discovering how certain types of bacteria are able to consume iron and cause corrosion in oil-pipe lines. The name of the bacterium is *Desulfovibrio vulgaris*. It is also known as Sulfate-reducing bacterium (SRB). Some varieties of the SRB create a slimy film on the inside of the pipelines creating a narrowing of the pipe as well as corrosion. The corrosion causes damage that is extensive and costly for the Oil Industry. According to the researchers, the biofilm forms because the bacterium is fishing for food. ■

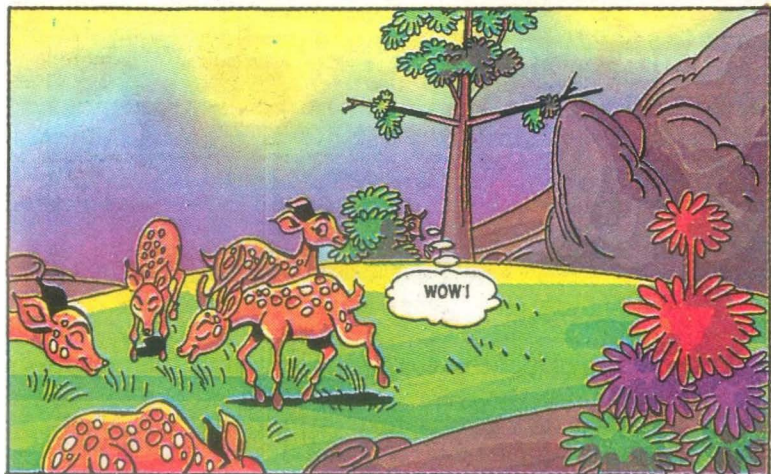
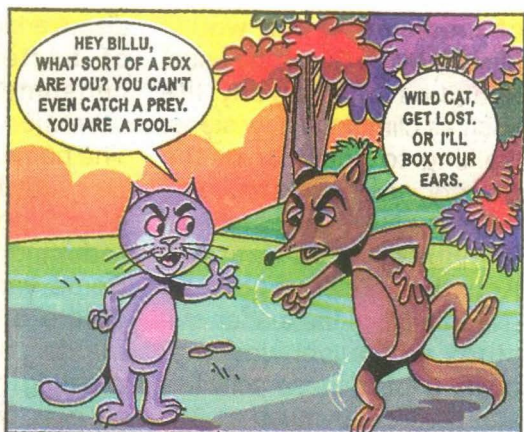
**True
or
False**

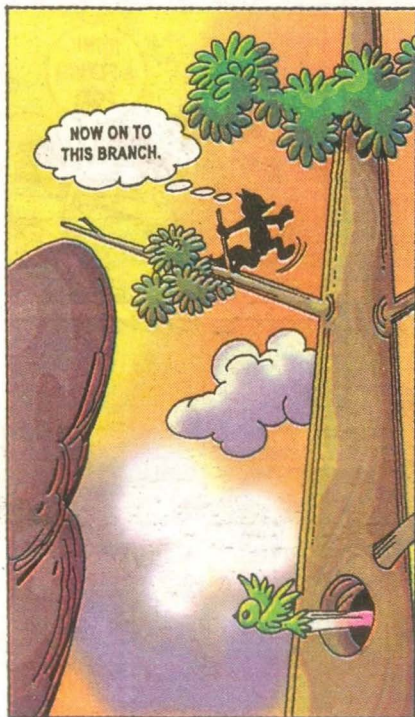
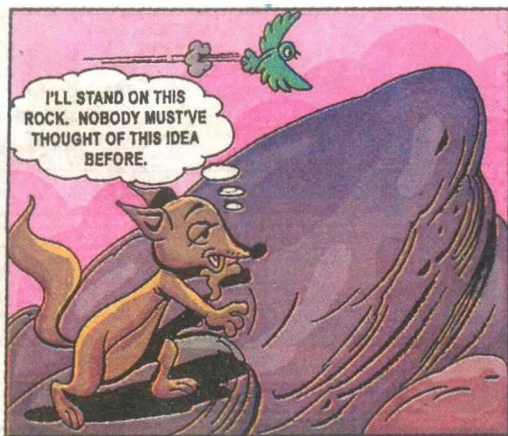


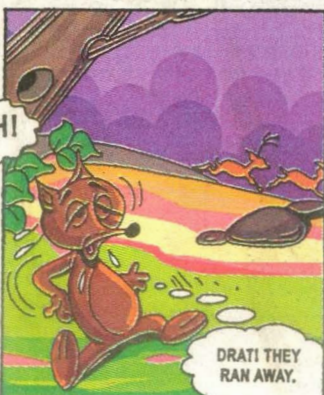
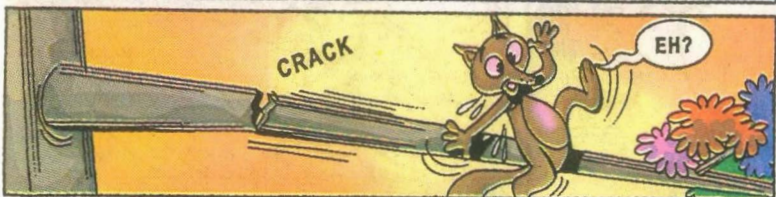
- 1) The best dairy cows give over 25 gallons of milk each day.
- 2) More people in the world drink goat's milk than cow's milk.
- 3) Cows clean their noses with their tails.
- 4) Cows see colour.

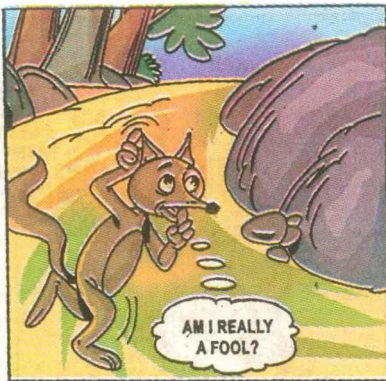
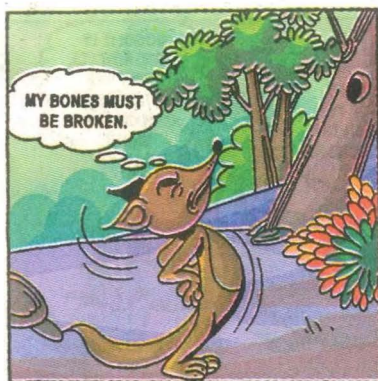
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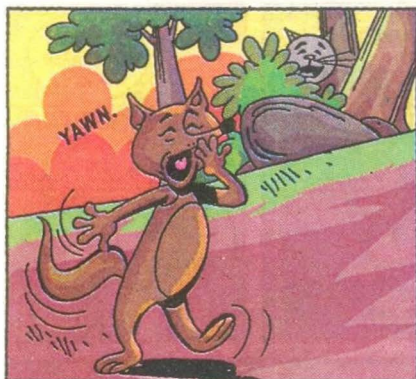
BILLU'S HUNTING











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MAIL BOX

■ I am a regular reader of *Children's Digest*. I enjoy almost all the articles in the magazine. Most of them are very informative.

Anu Liza Thomas,
Karivelithara House,
Sheemoni Gardens,
I. E. Nagar P.O., Kottayam,
Kerala.

■ I am one of the subscribers of *Children's Digest*. I enjoy all its contents. 'Try It', 'Crosswords', and 'Slylock Fox' are my favourites.

Anup Bharadwaj,
B-18, No. 20, BEML Layout,
Srirampura, Mysore - 570023.

■ *Children's Digest* is one of the best magazines that I ever read. May it have a bright future.

Rani, D/o Md. Soofi Azam,
Soofi Footwear Industries,
Danapur, Patna - 12, Bihar.

■ *Children's Digest* is the most exciting magazine I have ever read. It was introduced to me by my sister. 'Mandoo', 'Crosswords', 'Bonnie and Booboo' and 'Philately' are my favourites.

R. Ashwathy,
Swaraj Stores, Manjoor,
Kundah Bridge P.O.,
The Nilgiris.

■ I am a new reader of *Children's Digest*. 'Mandoo' and 'Slylock Fox' are my favourites. Thank you for publishing such a wonderful magazine.

Farhath Bai,
Mansoor Mansion, Alisserry
Ward, Alappuzha, Kerala.

■ I am a new reader of *Children's Digest*. The magazine is very interesting. 'Science Update' and 'Gallery of Scientists' are my favourites.

Anju Madhan M.,
New Carmel English School,
Divanarapalya, Bangalore.

■ I am a regular reader of *Children's Digest*. It is the best. 'Slylock Fox' and 'Crosswords' are my favourites.

Neethu Josekutty,
Jose Villa, Plamthoppil,
Nalukodi P.O., Changanacherry,
Kottayam.

■ I am a regular reader of *Children's Digest*. I enjoy all its contents. 'Gallery of Scientists' is my favourite.

Payel Barman,
Std V A, Christ Jyoti School,
Nagaon - 782001, Assam.

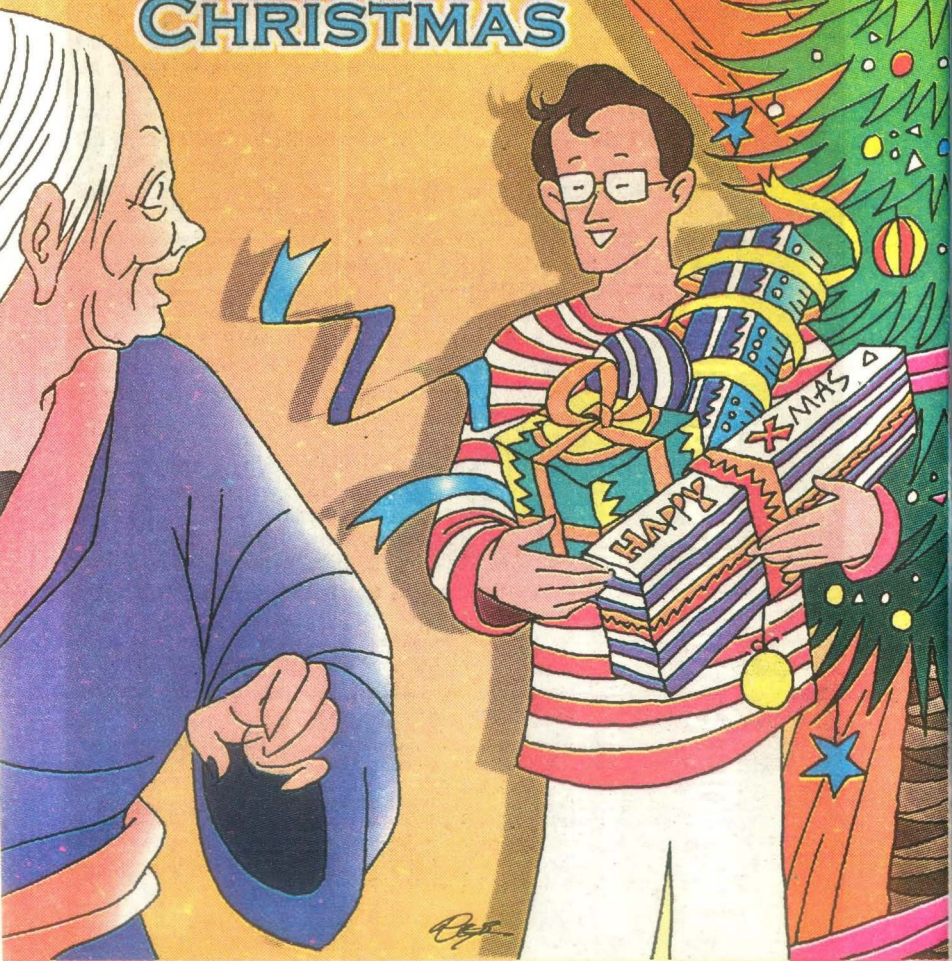
■ I am an ardent reader of *Children's Digest* for the past two years. It is a magazine full of information and fun. 'Mandoo' is my favourite.

Dilip Tomson,
Malikayil House, Kattady Nagar,
Udayamperoor, Ernakulam.

Story

- Anonymous

A BLUE CHRISTMAS





It was Christmas Eve and Mrs. Wilson, an elderly woman, was sitting in her rocking chair, listening to Christmas carols on her radio. This was a family tradition that went on for many, many years. Christmas just wasn't Christmas in the Wilson household without listening to carols on the radio.

"Oh my!" she sighed. "I'm so lonely. I wish my son, Paul were here to share Christmas with me!"

Mrs. Wilson lived alone in a small apartment. This particular Christmas was very rough on her. Normally, Christmas was spent with Paul, his wife Nelly, and their son Johnny. However, this could not happen this Christmas. Paul had lost his wife and son in a car accident earlier that fall. It was a very difficult time for Mrs. Wilson, but especially for Paul. Oh how he had loved his wife and child!

A few days ago, Mrs. Wilson had called her son to ask him to join her for Christmas.

"Ma, I can't," Paul had told her. "I miss them so terribly. I keep expecting them to show up at the doorstep."

"Oh Paul," cried Mrs. Wilson. "I know this is difficult for you, but do you honestly think that you should be alone at a time like this?"

Did You Know?

Hallmark introduced its first Christmas cards in 1915, five years after the founding of the company.

"I don't know," said Paul. "Right now, yeah, I do think that being alone is the answer."

"Well dear," she replied sadly. "If you change your mind, I'll be here."

"Thanks Ma," said Paul. "And, Ma, Merry Christmas."

"Merry Christmas to you too, son," said Mrs. Wilson.

The radio program was just finishing up for the night. Mrs. Wilson, yawning, got up and turned it off.

"The radio program just wasn't the same this year,"

she sighed as she went into her bedroom. "It's just not the same without Paul, Nelly and Johnny. I sure wish Paul would change his mind."

Later that night, she was awakened by a strange sound coming from her living room. Quickly, she grabbed her housecoat and went to see what was going on. There, standing by the Christmas tree, with his arms full of presents, was Paul.

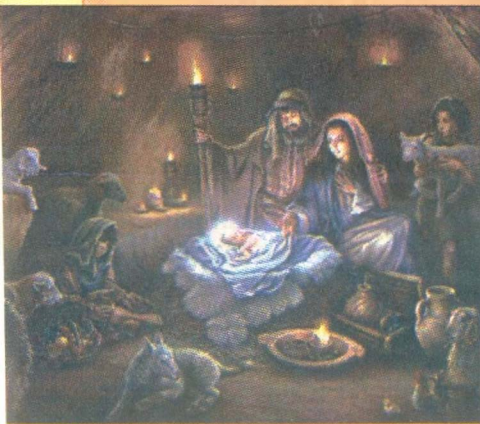
"Oh Paul!" cried Mrs. Wilson. "I'm so glad to see you."

She embraced her son as

Did You Know?

Jesus Christ, son of Mary, was born in a cave, not in a wooden stable. Caves were used to keep animals in

because of the intense heat. A large church is now built over the cave, and people can go down inside the cave. The carpenters of Jesus' day were really stone cutters. Wood was not used as widely as it is today. So whenever you see a Christmas nativity scene with a wooden stable — that's the "American" version, not the Biblical one.



tightly as she could.

"I just got to thinking that maybe being alone wasn't the right thing," said Paul. "After all, aren't we supposed to spend Christmas with family?"

"Yes, dear, we are," said Mrs. Wilson, happily. "I'm so glad you came."

"You know," said Paul. "I'm glad I did too."

"Can I get you something to eat, Paul?" asked Mrs. Wilson. "I have some apple pie and ice-cream."

"Now that sounds good," said Paul. "Come to think of it, I'm starved."

Mrs. Wilson dished out a heaping dish full of homemade apple pie and a huge serving of vanilla ice-cream.

"You know," said Paul taking a fork-full of pie. "Johnny used to love your apple pie and ice-cream. Remember the first time he had some?"

"Yes, I do," said Mrs. Wilson. "It was his first Christmas. Remember the mess he made? He had the pie and ice-cream everywhere!"

"Nelly sure had one mess

Did You Know?



The modern-day figure of Father Christmas (Santa Claus) was introduced by artist Haddon Sundblom in advertisements for the Coca-Cola Company.

to clean up after that one," said Paul sadly. "Boy, I sure do miss them."

A tear formed on the corner of his eye. He wiped it away with the back of his hand.

"It sure is hard on you,

Did You Know?

In France, Christmas is called Noel. This is derived from the French phrase "les bonnes nouvelles," which means literally "the good news" and refers to the gospel.



Quiz of the Month

- Prof. N.G.J.

1. Name the philosopher mathematician who said: "I think, therefore I am."
2. Name the environmental and political movement started by the 2004 Nobel Peace Prize laureate Wangari Maathai.
3. What relic is honoured during the Perahera festival in Sri Lanka?
4. Which country will host the 2010 World Cup Football?
5. For which king was the San Souci Palace, in Potsdam, now a house of several picture galleries, built in the year 1745?
6. What is an OKAPI?
7. How many is a "baker's dozen"?
8. Which nomadic community of Southern Orissa is known for the performance of the art form of "burying one's head under the earth"?
9. Who was the first official Poet Laureate of England?
10. Name the autobiography of Marlon Brando.

isn't it son?" asked Mrs. Wilson, sadly.

"It sure is," said Paul. "But, do you know something? It feels good to talk to someone

about them. I've been keeping this all bottled up inside of me and it just isn't doing me any good."

"I'm here for you, son," said Mrs. Wilson. "Anytime you feel like talking, I'm here."

"Thanks, Mom," said Paul.

Paul slept on the couch in the living room that night. When he woke up, he could smell his favourite Christmas

Did You Know?

In England, the Speaker of the House of Common is not allowed to speak.

11. Who was the king of the Ostrogoths, who invaded Italy in 489 AD, defeating king Odovacar?
12. What was the name of Old Delhi, at the time of Emperor Shah Jahan?
13. Who designed and for whom, the first Christmas Card shown in the figure?



(See page 94)

breakfast cooking, bacon and eggs.

"That smells delicious," said Paul, sitting down at the table a few minutes later. "Is that a turkey I smell, too?"

"It sure is," smiled Mrs. Wilson. "You can't have Christmas without a turkey."

Paul reached over and turned the radio on.

"We can't have Christmas without Christmas carols

either," said Paul.

"Oh Paul," cried Mrs. Wilson. "Merry Christmas!"

"Merry Christmas to you too, Ma," said Paul.

Did You Know?

For every person there are roughly 200 million insects.



Would you
like to write for

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**CHILDREN'S
Digest**

Your favourite magazine the Children's Digest, invites quality articles, features, stories, poems, cartoons, etc., from our young readers. Please send in your pieces, duly vetted by the Head of your institution, along with your full name, age, class and school. Your stories should be typed or neatly handwritten. We will make all efforts to publish your pieces.

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Write to:

*The Editor,
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Children's Digest,
P. B. No. 7,
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Kerala.*

SPACECRAFT game

1st Prize Winners

1. Ashlesh Ashok Pai
25, Belscot Residency
Baner Road
Pune - 411008.
2. Abhijith K. Menon
"Aayillyam"
Silknagar
Peringandur P.O.
Mulakunnathukavu - 680581
Trichur.

Consolation Prizes

3. S. Alexkumar
S/o K. Surderan
Kookankuzhi, Mancode P.O.
Kanyakumari, T.N.
4. Urmica
No. 22 B.H.E.L. Officers'
Housing Society
Nandini Layout,
Bangalore - 560096.
5. Ayshath Nillisha
D/o Abdul Latheef
T. A. Mahmood Haji House
Thayalangady, Kasaragod.

**Congratulations,
dear young
winners!**





CHOCOLATE Game

Hello little friends,

Here is an interesting game for you - a 'Fun Game' that brings to you wonderful gifts. So, get started and win your gifts.



Find out how many smaller words you can form from the word

CHOCOLATE

**Attractive
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Jive Kids Club will offer two entries with the highest number of words a surprise gift. Besides, there are three consolation prizes, too!

So rush your answers on a postcard to:

**The Editor, Jive Fun Time, Rashtra Deepika Children's Digest,
P.B. No. 7, Kottayam, Kerala.**

N.B.: Don't forget to put your address on the card. Also please don't repeat any letter more than the number of times it has appeared in the word.



Story

Louie the wasp went on a journey. It wasn't a very long journey, although he flew round the world.

The other insects were really impressed.

"Our very own Louie has flown right round the world all by himself!" they buzzed. "How did you do it in such a

the window!

"You tricked us!" mumbled the bumblebee. "So I did," hummed Louie "And now I am going round the world again

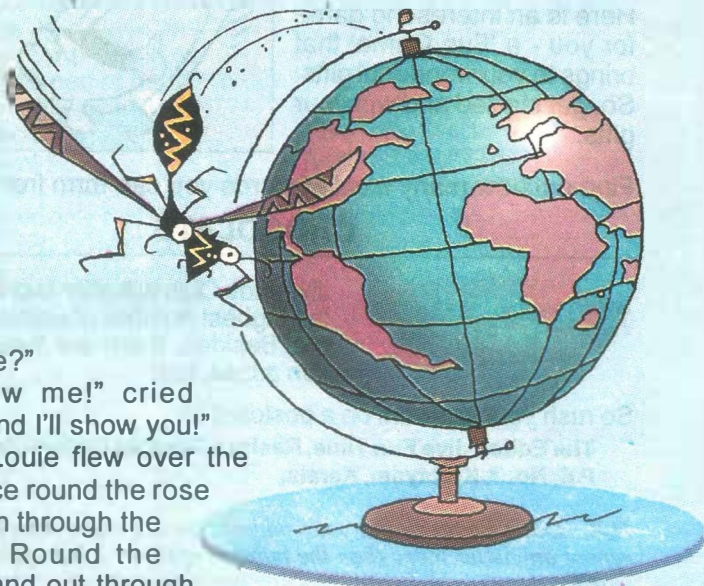
THE WASP

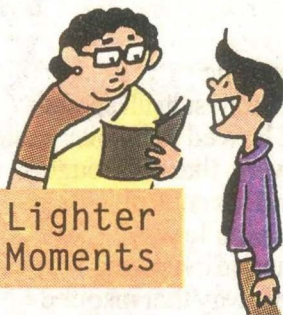
that Flew
Around the World

short time?"

"Follow me!" cried Louie. "And I'll show you!"

First Louie flew over the lawn, twice round the rose bushes, in through the window! Round the World... and out through





Teacher: Why does the Statue of Liberty have books in one hand and a torch in the other?

Pupil: Because you are not supposed to read in the dark.

- *Lionel M. Dias, Std IV A,
St. Joseph's Boys High School, No.
98, 18th Main 6th Cross, B.T.M.
Layout, Bangalore - 76.*

- but this time I shall land in Japan or Australia, or possibly Spain!" And off he went. But actually Louie was moving round a globe. This

was Louie's Round the World, in a few seconds.

- *Sent by Divya Pahlwa,
Std IX, D.L.D.A. Model School,
Pitampura, Delhi - 88.*

Puzzles for You!

1. Billy was murdered. He had no bruises or any scratches on his body. The doctor said that he had no medical problems or diseases. The only evidence was broken glass and a puddle of water. Billy was not drowned to death. How did Billy die?
2. Why was 6 scared of 7?
3. Imagine you were a bus driver. In the first stop eight people get in. In the second stop three people get off and five get in. In the third stop four people get off and 12 people get on. In the fourth stop two people get off and 10 people get on. On the way to the fifth stop there is a car accident so seven people get off. What colour is the bus driver's eyes?

- *Sent by Preeti Krishnaswamy,
6, Kingsmead Avenue, Kingsbury, London, NW97NL.*

(See page 94)



The Great Leader

Great man was he
Humble and honest in all spheres
praised and bowed to by every one.
His words were, like his thoughts
never beyond his control.
Dressed in a simple way
which impressed every one
He talked in a way that inspired
millions of hearts to fight
for their birthright.

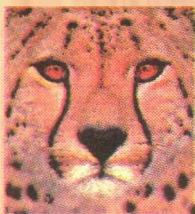
Truth and non-violence
paved the way to success
Never eared for rumour
Nor to greedy talk
Conscience was his only god
He worked according to
his inner thoughts.

Prayed for the whole world
Shared people's joys and thoughts
with a single heart
No regret or disgust.
Played the twin role of

mother and father
For the orphaned and the poor.
Great man was he cried the world
Who lives in millions of hearts
As father of their nation.

- *Shilpa Ram, Ursuline*
Senior Secondary School,
Cannanore - 670001, Kerala.

Cheetah



- *Albert Joseph
Sebastian,
Std V B,
Indian School,
Ajman, U.A.E.*

A cheetah is a very fast runner
In any race he can be the winner
He is so fast that he can have
his dinner at the right time
And fast enough to dig out a gold mine.
He has black dots
Which are called cheetah spots
He has a small feast
And he is a fierce beast.
He always chooses a weak prey
If he chooses a donkey you will hear it bray
If you are in a jungle you must be careful
Because he can be anywhere.

Upon the arrival of her brother,
Drift she did from one nightmare to another.
She gazed at him with tears in her eyes,
She did have to pay a great price.
Her hand did run through his gentle hair,
And gave her the pain too hard to bear.
For, he no longer will rise to fight,
And no longer will she be pronounced
the sister of the knight.

She wished this all to be a dream
She wished to die swept by a stream.
She brought him up no parents at all
And he left her alone, alone in the darkness to fall.
She no longer wished a long life to live,
For God, to her brother a long life did not give.
When the mist of sorrow did dawn clear away,
And the bier bearers to her home did find their way.
They found her head rested on his chest,
For God has destined her forever to rest.

Mist of Sorrow



- *Dhanasree Sreeshan,
Std IX, Ursuline Sr. Sec. School, Kannur, Kerala.*



Pen Pals

1. Nischie Marak(17), C/o Johny Sangma, P.O. Dakkopgre (TV Tower), West Garo Hills, Meghalaya - 794 101. H&I: Watching TV, reading and collecting stamps.
2. Srilakshmi R. A., Std X, J.N.V. Gajnur, Shimoga, Karnataka. H&I: Dancing, listening to music and drawing.
3. Reshma Ashokan(16), Athikuzhi, Udayamperoor - 682307, Kerala. H&I: Friendship, listening to music and watching T.V.
4. Sukhaina M. Manika(15), Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalaya, Minicoy Island, Lakshadweep - 682559. H&I: Chatting, reading and watching T.V.
5. Priyanka Prakash(15), Thilak Nagar, House No. 2, Kakkad, Kannur - 5, Kerala. H&I: Listening to music, watching T.V. and drawing.
6. G. P. Darshan(12), Std VII, St. Joseph's Indian School, No 16, 13th Cross, 'G' Main, Cholurpalaya, Bangalore - 560023. H&I: Playing football, swimming and watching T.V.
7. Sunny(19), B-3/26C, Gasta Colony, New Delhi - 110063. H&I: Reading, watching movies and travelling.
8. Manish G, Sri Satya Sai Vidyapeeth, Sri Sailam, Katalur, Calicut, Kerala. H&I: Playing cricket, reading and friendship.
9. Ajith Krishnan P. R.(16), Shiwalik House, Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalaya, Malampuzha, Palakkad, Kerala. H&I: Listening to music, playing chess and chatting.
10. G. P. Vishal(10), New Indian Public School, No 16, 13th Cross, 'G' Main, Cholurpalaya, Bangalore - 560023. H&I: Dancing, drawing and reading.
11. Naziya A. Mohammed(15), Std X, Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalaya, Minicoy Island, Lakshadweep. H&I: Chatting, listening to music and friendship.
12. Prasant Bhasti, Sri Satya Sai Vidyapeeth, Sri Sailam, Katalur, Calicut, Kerala. H&I: Playing cricket, reading and driving.

Welcome to Pen Pals

CLUB

Send us particulars regarding your name and address, age, the standard you study, your hobbies and interests, to the following address

**Co-ordinator,
Pen Pals Club,
Children's Digest,
P. B. No. 7,
Kottayam-686001,
Kerala, India.**

13. Saranya K. M.(15), C/o R. Kanchana, T. C. 47/1165, Manas Nagar, Karamana P.O., Trivandrum - 2, Kerala. H&I: Reading, painting and drawing.
14. Ashish Kumar, Sri Satya Sai Vidyapeeth, Sri Sailam, Katalur, Calicut, Kerala. H&I: Playing football, dancing and singing.
15. Anu Alfred(16), 14/1419-E, Kalathiparambil, Chullikal, Cochin - 682005, Kerala. H&I: Collecting stamps, swimming and reading.
16. James Paul(18), C/o Pramod Paul, Masihi Prarthana Bhawan, Bhelwa Padar, Kondagaon P.O., Bastar - 494226, India. H&I: Listening to music, reading and drawing.
17. Amy Abraham(10), Kallarackal, Karingachira, Cochin - 682301. H&I: Reading, watching movies and listening to music.
18. Harshit Upadhyay(12), Kumharpatty, Near Assam Studio, Tinsukia, Assam - 786125. H&I: Playing cricket and video games.
19. Tripti Karki(16) C/o Rekha Karki, 40 B. D. Road, Tripti Lodge, Kurseong - 734203, Darjeeling. H&I: Playing badminton, reading and surfing the Net.
20. Mohd. Rizwan Belim(17), Maheshwari Society, 50 Feet Main Road, Near New Luhar Wadi, Bhawani Chowk, Rajkot - 360002. H&I: Listening to music, watching movies and reading.
21. R. Aparna Menon(14), D/o G. Raghunathan Pillai, 'Souparnika', Mayanad P.O., Kozhikode - 673008, Kerala.
22. Swathy Sreejith(6), Std I B, Trinity Lyceum School, Kollam, Kerala. H&I: Drawing, dancing and watching T.V.
23. Anirban Debnath(16), 1/B/20 Ramkrishna Naskar Lane, Beliaghata P.O., Kolkata - 700010. H&I: Drawing, reading and friendship.
24. Sunilkumar M. Nambiar(13), Std VIII A, Shivalik House, Jawahar Navodhaya Vidyalaya, Periy, Kasargod, Kerala. H&I: Painting, chatting and acting.
25. Jobin George(16), C/o Youth Incharge, S.O.S. Youth House, Edathala P.O., Aluva, Ernakulam, Kerala. H&I: Travelling, swimming and driving.
26. Muhammed Riyas P.M.(16), Std XI A, K. S. Abdulla English Medium School, Vidyanagar, Chettumkuzhi, Kasaragod - 23, Kerala. H&I: Reading and writing.
27. Veena Bhaskar(13), Std VIII A, Aravali House, J.N.V. Periy, Kasaragod, Kerala - 671316. H&I: Listening to music and reading.
28. Gremi K. Manadan(15), TC VII/806, 'Manasam', Gandhi Nagar, Cherur P. O., Thrissur, Kerala - 680008. H&I: Collecting stamps, playing football and friendship.





YOUNG ARTISTS



Manish Mohan,
VII C, Don
Bosco Higher
Secondary
School,
Irinjalakuda-
680121.



Neha Gireesh,
VI, Tagore Vidya
Peedom,
Thalassery.



Anjali K.R.,
IX B,
MCGHS,
Kandassamkadavu.



Arya V.P., IX B, SH of
MCGHS, Kandassamkadavu.



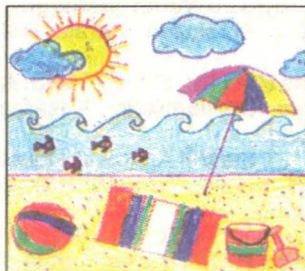
S. Vismitha,
VII B, Stella
Maris Primary
School, Vyalikaval,
Bangalore-560003.



D. Sasidhar, VIII B, Vedavalli
Vidyalaya Senior
Secondary School,
Walajapet-632513.



S. Mahalakshmi Yadav, VII
E-1, Navi Mumbai School,
Navi Mumbai-400703.



B. Adithya, I A, Sishya School,
Hosur.



A. Althea Paul, VII A,
Christuraja Mat. Hi.
Sec. School,
Martandam.



Sameer Hasan, VII A, Aligarh
Public School, Aligarh.



Ankita Agrawal,
VI, Delhi Public
School, Delhi.

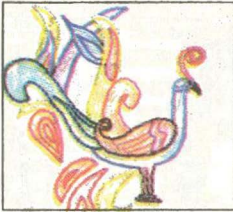


**Blesslyn Catherine
Chackson,** VII, Chavara
International School,
Amanakara.



Jim Joy Joseph, VI,
Benhill School, Kannur.

Young Talents



S.P. Rithika, VIII A, St. Joseph's Convent Higher Secondary School, Nagercoil.



Amrit Kumar Singh, VII A, Kendriya Vidyalaya AFS Jorhat-785005.



D. Jeelani, VII B, Vedavalli Vidyalaya Senior Secondary School, Walajapet-632513.



Nihal, V B, SHHS, Vellimadukunnu, Kozhikode.



L.K. Nithya, VII B, K.V. No. 1, Port Blair.



Rochak Raju P.V., V A, Central School, Edat, Payyannur, Kannur.



Sree Lakshmi V., V A, Cherupushpam English Medium UPS, Vadakkencherry, Palakkad-678683.



V. Lalith Kiran, V A, Sishya School, Hosur.



Venkatesh S., III A, Amrita Vidyalayam, Kaimanam, Thiruvananthapuram-695018.



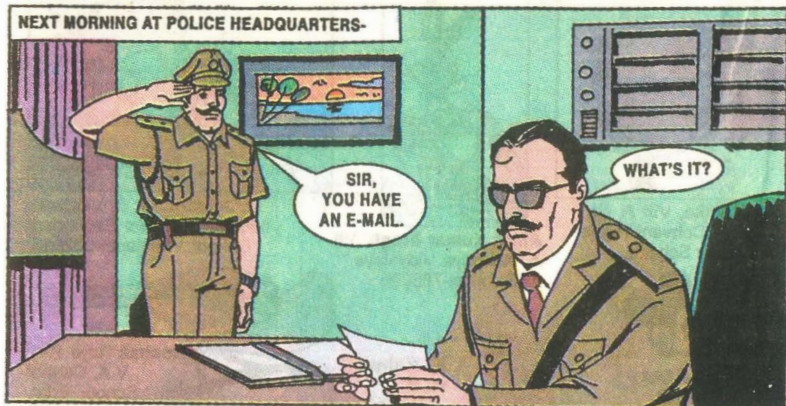
Himanshu Kohl, IV B, St. Joseph's Academy, Dehradun.

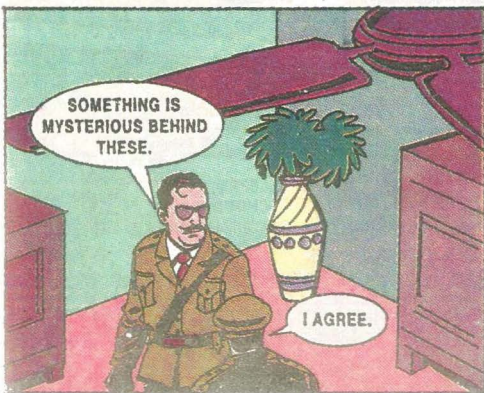
How to Draw a bubble bath

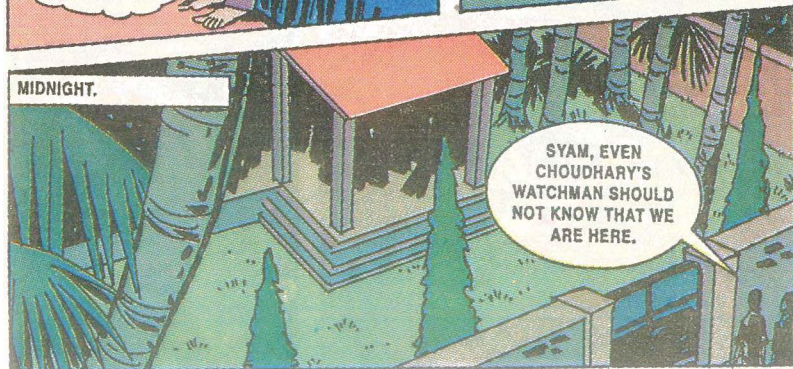
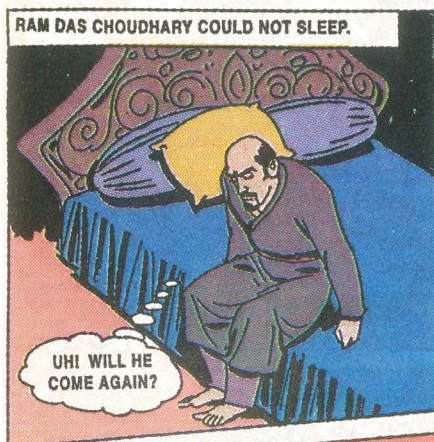


GORILLA PALACE

NEXT MORNING AT POLICE HEADQUARTERS-

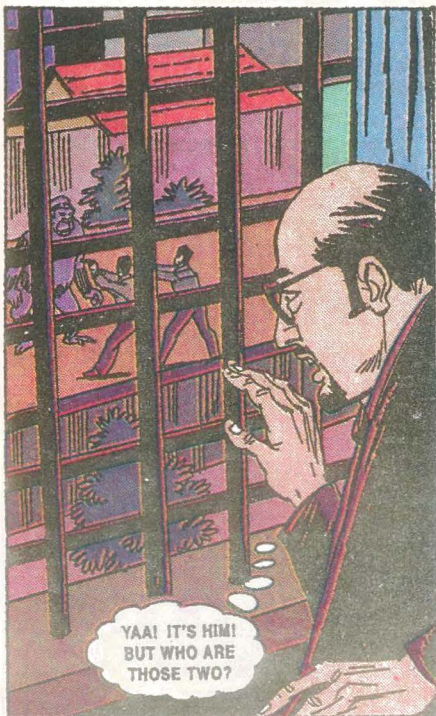
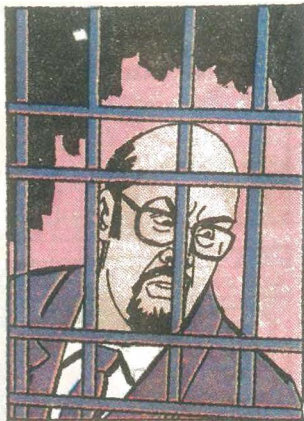








A GUN-SHOT NEAR THE GATE MADE RAM DAS CHOUDHARY SHUDDER.



LATER AT POLICE HEADQUARTERS-

THERE IS SOME RELATION
WITH GANESH CHAND'S DEATH
AND YESTERDAY'S
INCIDENT.

IT MUST BE THE
SAME CREATURE'S FOOT
PRINT THAT WE SAW
NEAR THE BODY.

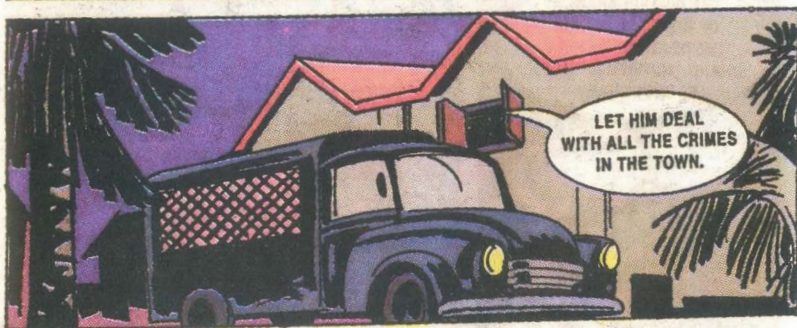
THE DISAPPEARANCE
OF GOPAL SHANKAR.
THE DEATH OF GANESH
CHAND. MURDER ATTEMPT
AT CHOUDHARY.

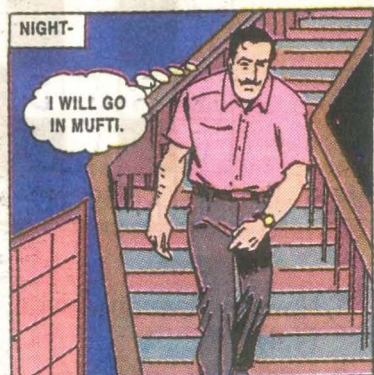
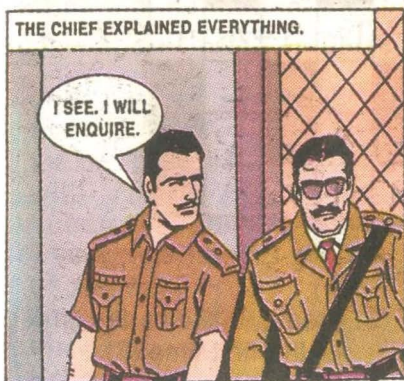
THINGS ARE
GETTING WORSE.

AN EFFICIENT
OFFICER SHOULD TAKE
UP THIS
INVESTIGATION.

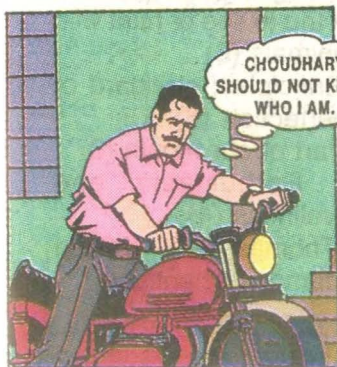
WHOM DO YOU
SUGGEST?

SIR,
YOU FORGOT
NITISH?





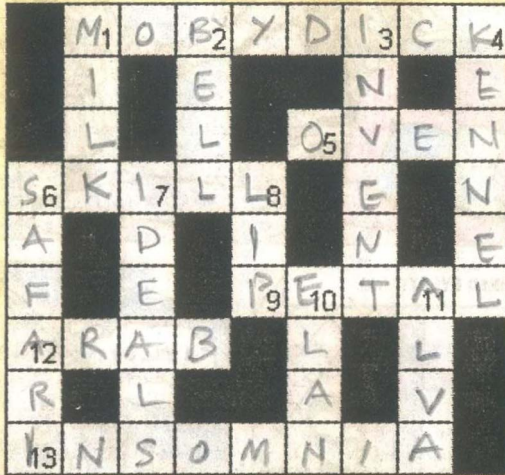
© JINGLE BELL CREATIONS



(To be continued)

Crossword

- K. S. Geethavani, Coimbatore



Across:

1. Novel by Herman Melville (4,4)
5. Device for baking (4)
6. Ability to do something well (5)
9. Part of a flower (5)
12. U.A.E. - United _____ Emirates (4)
13. Inability to sleep (8)

Down:

1. A Dairy product (4)
2. For Whom the _____

Tolls - Ernest Hemingway (4)

3. Create, make or design for the first time (6)
4. A dog's house (6)
6. A trip to see or hunt wild animals (6)
7. Principles; standard of perfection (6)
8. Part of our mouth (3)
10. Enthusiasm and liveliness (4)
11. Thomas _____ Edison : famous scientist (4)

(See page 94)

The Adventures of Robin Hood - 2

The foresters who had challenged Robin Hood were flabbergasted. They had never expected a young lad to win the wager by performing the difficult task of shooting down a hart from such a distance! His remarkable calibre came as an unpleasant surprise, and the idea of parting with three hundred pounds was even more unpleasant. They now decided to turn the tables on Robin Hood.

"Oh, so you demand the money, do you?" cried the one who had originally proposed the wager, now incensed. "Get lost, fellow, or I'll give you such a beating that you'll never be able to walk again!"

Another forester quickly spoke up in his friend's support. "That's right. Don't you know that it's the King's

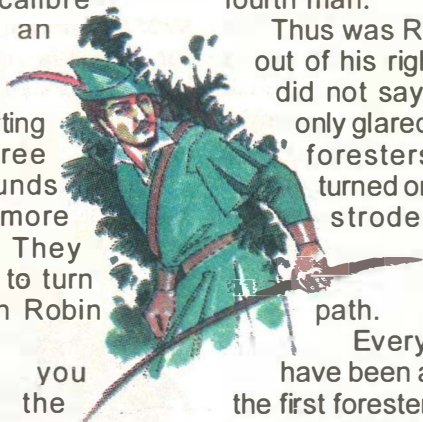
deer you've killed? By the laws of our gracious king, the punishment for this crime is to cut off your ears!"

"Don't let him go! Catch him!" cried a third forester.

"No, let him go – he's only a youngster, after all," said a fourth man.

Thus was Robin cheated out of his rightful due. He did not say a word, but only glared grimly at the foresters. He then turned on his heel and strode away from them down the forest path.

Everything would have been all right if only the first forester had had the sense to let Robin go. But he was in a bad mood and moreover, his brain was befuddled by alcohol. So, without any warning, he suddenly sprang to his feet, grabbed his bow, and fitted an arrow to it. "I'll speed you on your way!" he cried as he sent the arrow whistling after Robin.



It was fortunate for Robin Hood that the forester's head was spinning with ale, or else it would have certainly killed him. As it was, the arrow whizzed past him, missing his head by a couple of inches.

It was the last straw; Robin's hot blood rose in revolt. He spun around and drawing his own bow, sent an arrow back in return.

"A moment ago you criticised my archery skills," he thundered. "Say once again that I'm no archer!"

The arrow unerringly struck its target. The forester plunged forward with a cry, and lay face downward and lifeless on the ground. His arrows lay around him in a pool of blood.

The others stood gazing at the scene, stupefied. Before they could gather their wits, Robin Hood was gone into the depths of the forest. No one dared chase him, lest he suffered the same fate as his colleague. Slowly, they lifted up the dead forester's body, and bore it back to Nottingham.

Meanwhile, Robin Hood

ran through the forest. All his joy and brightness had vanished; he felt sick to his very soul as the implication of what he had done sunk in. He had killed a man!

In that fateful moment, his entire life had been turned upside down. No longer could he go to Nottingham, or participate in that shooting competition – or indeed in any competition henceforth – or even return home to Locksley, for, he was now a wanted



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criminal. He was guilty on two counts.— of poaching on the King's deer, and of killing a man, that too a servant of the King. He had no option but to hide in the forest!

At first, Robin railed bitterly against his fate, and cursed the impulse that had made him shoot the forester; but at last, he reconciled himself to his fate, telling himself that what was done could not be undone. Thus, he came to live in the forest that was to be his home for many years. He lived by hunting the protected deer, taking care to stay out of the foresters' sight.

Meanwhile, the King announced a reward of two hundred pounds for anyone who would capture Robin Hood and bring him to his court. The Sheriff of Nottingham was keen on catching him and bagging the reward, all the more so because the forester Robin Hood had killed was one of his relatives.

But Robin Hood remained successfully hidden in Sherwood Forest for a whole year, during which time he gathered around him many other young men like himself. All of them had fallen foul of the law for various reasons. Some had shot the King's deer in winter, when they could get no other food, and had been seen in the act by the foresters, but had escaped. Others had been turned out of their property so that their farms might be added to the King's lands in Sherwood Forest; some had been wronged by a great baron or a rich abbot. All of them, for one reason or another, had come to Sherwood Forest



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to escape wrong and oppression.

In this manner, in the first year over a hundred outlaws – good archers all – joined Robin Hood and chose him as their leader. Then they took a vow that just as they themselves had been ill-treated, they would pay back their oppressors in the same coin, no matter how influential they were. They would recover the money that these cruel people had squeezed out of the poor by way of unjust taxes, or land rents, or in wrongful fines. But, they swore, they would always be the friends of the poor – giving

them a helping hand in times of trouble, and restoring to them whatever had been unjustly taken from them. They would also never harm a child or wrong a woman.

After a while, the people around Sherwood Forest realised that the so-called outlaws were not out to harm them, but were in fact their friends. Many a poor family was helped out by Robin Hood's men with money or food in times of want. Gradually, the people began considering Robin Hood as one of themselves. They were full of praise for the outlaws who helped them.

(To continue)



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Proverbs



- **Nodding the head does not row the boat.**
- A statement once let loose cannot be caught by four horses.

- Life is for one generation; a good name is forever.

- Write down the advice of him who loves you, though you like it not at present.

- Teeth placed before the tongue give good advice.

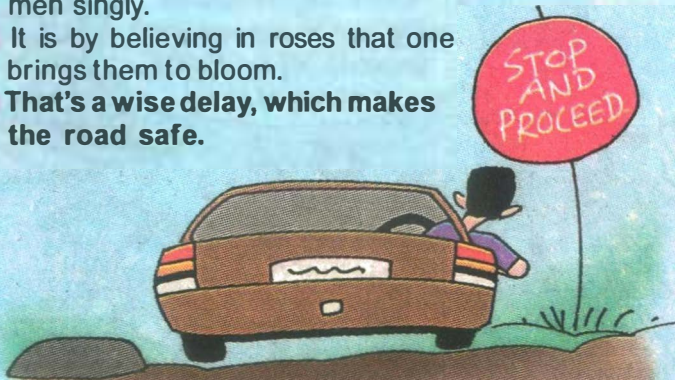
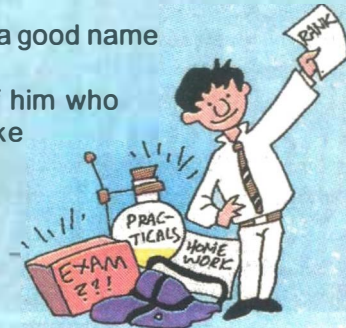
- **One joy scatters a hundred griefs.**

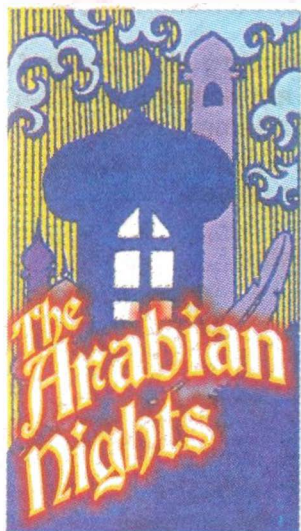
- For a web begun, God sends thread.

- Three men helping one another will do as much as six men singly.

- It is by believing in roses that one brings them to bloom.

- **That's a wise delay, which makes the road safe.**





Ajib explained that he had renounced the world.

God be praised!
You are a saint, no less!
You will do a lot of good to mankind!



The caravan moved on.

Let these two men remain with Ajib to take care of his needs.



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At the village nearby, the merchants spread the news of Ajib's arrival.

A wise man has come to our village. He has renounced the world. It's our duty to take care of him.

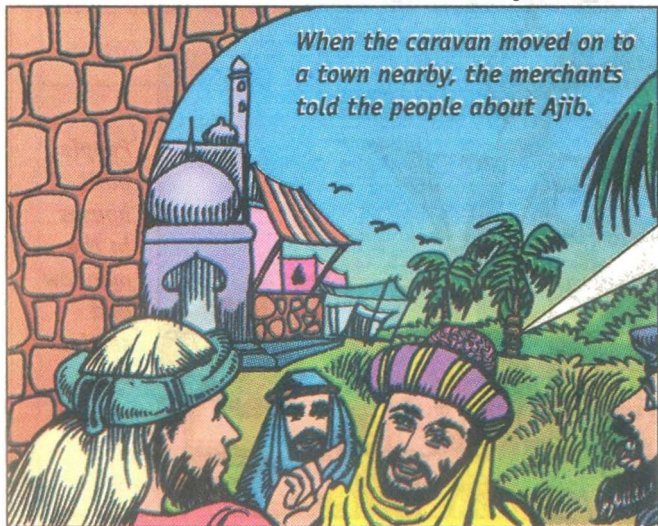


*The villagers
flocked to
the meadow
near the old
well. Soon
they built a
house there
for Ajib.*



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*When the caravan moved on to
a town nearby, the merchants
told the people about Ajib.*

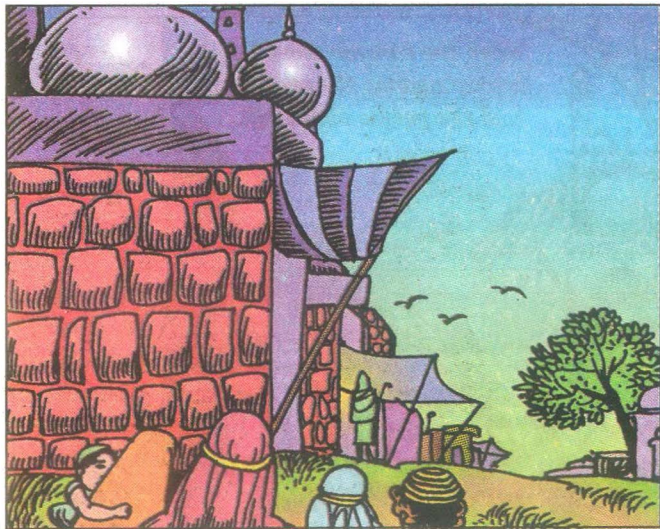


**You know
our old
friend,
Ajib? He
is now a
hermit.
Meet him.
You'll
benefit
by
his words.**

*Soon,
people
from the
town, too,
started
flocking
to Ajib.*



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*People
built
houses
in the
meadow
and
settled
there.*

Ajib charmed everyone with his wise words and simple ways. His helpful and generous nature touched everyone's heart.

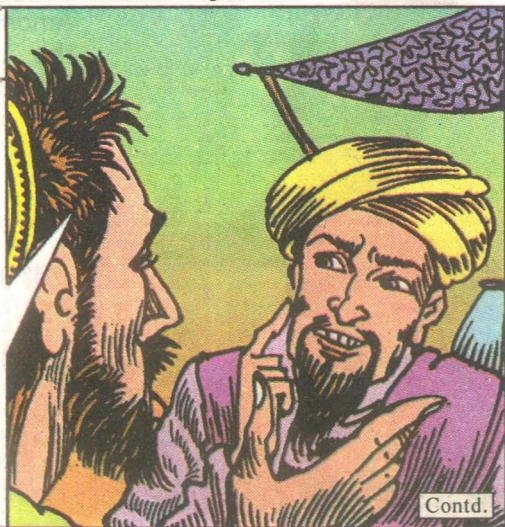


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At Ajib's hometown....

Do you remember
your neighbour,
Ajib? He has
become a man of
God now.

He is now very
famous in the
nearby towns and
villages. Why
don't you visit him
and seek
his blessings?



Contd.

Gallery of Scientists

- P. Gopalakrishnan

Science had just discovered that some forms of matter give off radiation, and investigation into this was beginning to unlock the secret of the atom. Harriet Brooks was among the

early scientists who were engaged in this work. She has the distinction of being the only physicist known to have worked with all three of the great nuclear physicists: Ernest Rutherford, J. J. Thomson, and Marie Curie. All these three scientists were awarded Nobel Prizes for work that Harriet Brooks had contributed to directly. But, sadly, she didn't get the recognition she deserved. Among her contributions are the co-discovery of the element Radon, the theory that one element could turn into another with radioactive



Harriet Brooks

(1876-1933)

**A Pioneer
in Radioactivity**

decay, and her foundation work on the recoil theory of atoms.

Harriet Brooks was born in Canada, at Exeter, Ontario, into a low income family in 1876. The Brooks family shifted from Exeter, and settled in Montreal, Quebec. A brilliant student, she was able to attend McGill University through scholarships. There was at that time a general prejudice against women attending university and it was only six years since McGill had begun giving degrees to women.

She graduated from McGill in the first rank and joined Ernest Rutherford at McGill University's McDonald Laboratory as his first graduate student. It was Harriet's good fortune to work with the renowned physicist.

At the time very little was known about radioactivity. It was not even suspected that radioactive substances like radium, thorium, and polonium possessed deadly properties.

Rutherford was experimenting with radium when he found that it gave off something that was like a gas but was not gas. He gave Harriet the

Aqualung



The aqualung is a breathing apparatus that supplied oxygen to divers and allowed them to stay underwater

for several hours. It was invented in 1943 by Jacques-Yves Cousteau (1910 - 1997) and the French industrial gas control systems engineer Emile Gagnan.

Among the innovations in their device was a mechanism that provided inhalation and exhaust valves at the same level.



job of finding out what exactly it was. She and her fellow researchers found that, though coming from radium, it was not radium and that it had an atomic weight of its own. Only elements have atomic weights, each element having a specific atomic

weight as a characteristic property with which it can be identified. So it meant that Harriet Brooks and her team had identified a new element. It was later named Radon. But more importantly, the discovery implied that

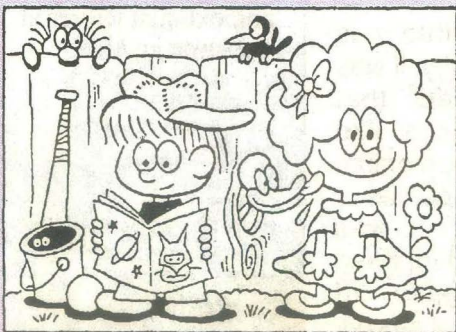
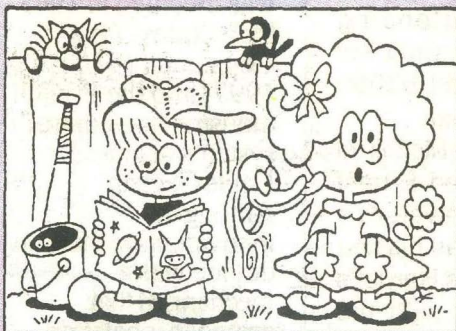
changing one element into another was possible, something which was unthinkable till then.

Rutherford and Harriet Brooks presented a joint paper on the discovery of a new gas to the Royal Society of Canada. Rutherford published a second article, under his own name, in the magazine 'Nature'. In this article he commended the assistance of Harriet Brooks for the work which led to the discovery of the new gas.

In 1901, when

Fry It...

Find six differences between these two panels.



(See page 94)

Harriet was about twenty-five, she joined the Bryn Mawr, a college for women, in Pennsylvania, USA, for her Ph.D. There she was awarded the "European Fellowship", a scholarship given to the most brilliant of graduate students of Bryn Mawr College. The scholarship was instituted to enable the student to attend any European University of her choice for one year. Harriet chose Cambridge for working at the Cavendish Lab with J.J. Thomson.

It turned out to be an unfortunate choice. Thomson was unhelpful to her and it was probably what she experienced at Cavendish Lab during this year that stopped her from pursuing a career in scientific research. She returned to McGill University and rejoined the McDonald lab to work with Rutherford. Harriet continued the study of the radioactive decay of radium. She found that during the process of decay a piece of radium sent high-speed particles in all directions. She described the phenomenon

Did You Know?



The word eclipse is Greek for "abandonment." The Greeks believed that the sun was abandoning the earth during an eclipse.

The most common belief about a solar eclipse involves a dragon or a demon devouring the sun. During an eclipse, the ancient Chinese would make extremely loud noises by banging on drums or pots to scare the dragon away. The Incas would also try to scare away the creatures eating the sun.

In ancient India, people would sink themselves in water up to their necks. This was considered an act of worship believed to help the sun fight off the dragon.



Did You Know?

The game of basketball was invented by James Naismith (1861-1939). Naismith was a Canadian physical education instructor who invented the game in 1891 so that his students could participate in sports during the winter. In his original game, which he developed while at the Springfield, Massachusetts YMCA (Young

Men's Christian Association), Naismith used a soccer ball which was thrown into peach baskets (with the basket bottoms intact). The first public basketball game was in Springfield, MA, USA, on March 11, 1892. Basketball was first played at the Olympics in Berlin, Germany in 1936 (America won the gold medal, and Naismith was there).

as an 'invisible snow storm.'

Rutherford spoke about the discovery that Harriet Brooks had made in a lecture at a scientists' meet in London, but the scientific community ignored it as Brooks was not among the famous. Four years later Otto Hahn noticed the same phenomenon. When he announced it the community of scientists gave the credit

of discovery to Hahn.

In a letter to Otto Hahn Rutherford implied that it was unfair, and that he had in his book mentioned Brooks' discovery. Hahn replied that

Did You Know?

The youngest language in the world is Afrikaans, spoken by South Africans.

Brooks' work was not known to him and anyway her observations were not of the recoil phenomena.

Harriet worked with Marie Curie during the two years 1906 and 1907 and Curie mentioned it in some of her papers.

She had the good fortune to meet and become friends with Maxim Gorky, the great writer, whose works inspired the revolutionaries in Russia. She met Gorky and his wife Maria Andeyeva at a resort in New York. On their invitation Harriet traveled with them to Italy where they had a villa in the Isle of Capri and spent a memorable autumn there with the famous couple.

At that time universities were governed by scholarly conservatives who held the view that once a woman is married she becomes unfit for intellectual pursuits such as scientific research. This caused Harriet Brooks to leave the field of research after her marriage.

She passed away in 1933 at the age of fifty-seven. Like many other early scientists who worked with

radioactive substances she died of radiation-induced illness. In an obituary he wrote for 'Nature', Rutherford paid a handsome tribute to Harriet who had been his student, co-worker and friend. He said that she was the most outstanding woman in the field of radioactivity second only to Madame Curie. ■

Windshield Wiper

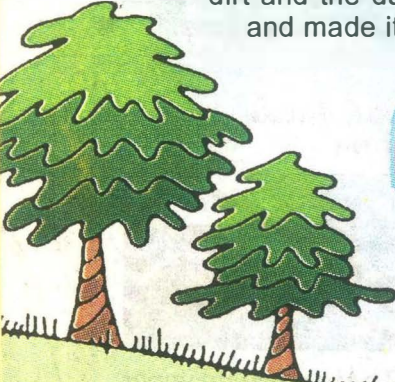


The windshield wiper was invented by Mary Anderson in 1903 to help streetcars operate safely in the rain. In 1905 she patented her invention, which allowed the car operator to control the external, swinging arm wipers from within the car. Windshield wipers became standard equipment on cars a decade later. Anderson was from Alabama, USA.

Tales Behind Sayings

- R. K. Murthy, New Delhi

The rabbit was digging for carrots. It knew that they were sweet, crunchy and crisp when freshly dug out. Nothing was as tasty as tender red carrots. So thought the rabbit. To get the carrots out, the rabbit had to work hard. While digging, dust and dirt flew up in the air. Some of the dirt and the dust settled on the rabbit's white coat and made it look shaggy. That did not worry the



Impossible
Is the
Untried

rabbit. It would go, after having its fill of carrots, to the shallow pool some distance away, take a bath, and scrub and clean its coat. Then the coat would become sparkling white, again.

The rabbit ate a few carrots. Then it wanted more. So it started clawing at the ground with its feet. Then its paw struck something hard. "What is it?" the rabbit sat on its haunches and rolled its eyes. It carefully dug out more earth out of the ground. Then its eyes fell on a ring. It had a precious stone set in it. The light of the sun fell on the precious stone. The



beloved," thought the rabbit with a gleam in its eyes.

The rabbit forgot all about carrots. Nor did it bother about its dusty coat. It wanted to hurry to the presence of its wife. It hopped, stepped and jumped, while making it homewards. It held the ring carefully lest it fell off.

It had covered almost half the distance to its home when it tripped and tumbled. The ring flew out of its hand. It tried to grab the ring, but the ring rolled off and disappeared down a small hole drilled in



Did You Know?

The ears of a cricket are located on the front legs, just below the knee.

the ground. Who had done that? The rabbit did not know. It could be a mouse, or a mole or any of the other creatures that lived below the ground. The rabbit cursed all such animals. It called them names, gnashing its teeth in anger. But, anger, the rabbit remembered soon, would not help it get the ring back.

"I must get the ring back," the rabbit decided.

Easier said than done. How could the rabbit get the ring back?

The rabbit ran to the hole and peeped in. Its eyes fell on the ring, lying at the bottom of the hole. The rabbit tried to push its hand down through the hole to get the ring. But the hole was too small. The rabbit's hands could not go down that hole. "The ring is just down there.

Did You Know?

The word "Christmas" means "Mass of Christ," later shortened to "Christ-Mass." The even shorter form "Xmas" - first used in Europe in the 1500s - is derived from the Greek alphabet, in which X is the first letter of Christ's name: Xristos, therefore "X-Mass."

So near, yet so far," the rabbit threw up its front legs in dismay.

The rabbit tried again and again. It did not want to dig all around the hole to make room for its front legs. It feared that the ring might get buried in the loose earth and then the rabbit might never be able to find it again.

The rabbit scratched its

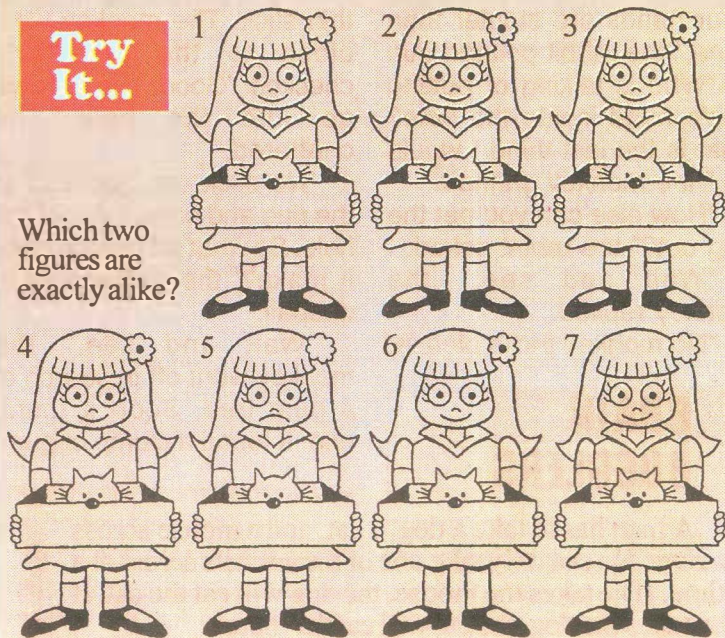
head with its front paw.

"Why do you look so glum, my friend?" the monkey ran across the branch of the tree that stood close to the hole, clung to the branch with one hand and merrily swung around.

"I am sad because my ring fell into this hole," the rabbit pointed out the hole to the monkey.

**Try
It...**

Which two
figures are
exactly alike?



(See page 94)

"Why don't you put your front leg in and seize it?" the monkey asked.

"The hole is too small. I can't push my hand in," the rabbit sounded sad.

"May be I can find a way out," said the monkey as he jumped down to the ground.

"You think you can?" the rabbit could not believe that possible.

"Yes."

"I think it is impossible. Your hands are stouter than mine," the rabbit pointed out.

"Who is talking of putting one's hand inside the hole? That is the last thing I would do," the monkey grinned.

"How else can you get the ring out?" the rabbit asked.

"Wait and see," the monkey replied.

"No monkey tricks please.

Nothing that will make the ring go under the ground, never to be found again," the rabbit had its fears.

"Leave it to me. I know how to go about it," the monkey was sure of itself.

"Even though the task is impossible, according to me," the rabbit cried.

"Impossible is the untried," said the monkey as he carefully looked all around. Finally it picked up a long, thin stick. The monkey went close to the hole and checked. "Good. The stick will go into the hole," he chattered.

"No stick can get hold of the ring and bring it out of the hole. So what difference does it make?" the rabbit said in despair.

"Wait and see," the monkey went off in search of a gum tree. Soon it found one. It found a clump of gum.

BRAIN BOGGLERS

A man has to take a dog, a cat, and a mouse across a river. He can only take one of the animals across at a time. If he takes the mouse, the dog will eat the cat. If he takes the dog, the cat will eat the mouse.

How does he get the three animals across the river?

(See page 94)

It seized the gum and firmly stuck it to one of the ends of the stick. Then it returned to the hole in which lay the ring. It inserted the gummy end of the stick into the hole. Gently it pushed the stick down the hole. Soon the stick had gone all the way to the bottom of the hole. It could go no further down. The monkey pressed at the end of the stick that it held. Then it carefully pulled the stick out. It checked the stick's end that came out of the hole. Its eyes gleamed with joy. For the ring was right there, stuck to the gum around the end of the stick. It had come up when the monkey pulled the stick out.

"Here is your ring," said the monkey as he removed the ring from the gum and walked across to the rabbit.

"You got it out of the hole? I never thought anyone could get the ring out of that hole. Thank you," the rabbit took the ring from the monkey, held the monkey close and

danced with joy.

The rabbit took leave of the monkey, held the ring carefully, and started homewards. It gave the ring to its wife and then told her how it lost the ring. "But for the monkey's help, I would never have got it back." It paused for a second before adding, "Now I know that what we think impossible is nothing but the untried." ■

Word of the Month

Smart

- 1) He looked smart in his new clothes.

Other words you might use are

***neat posh tidy
well-dressed.***

The opposite is *untidy*.

- 2) That's a smart dog if he understands what you say.

Other words you might use are

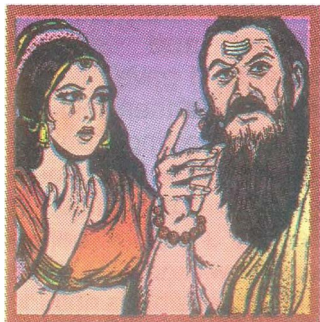
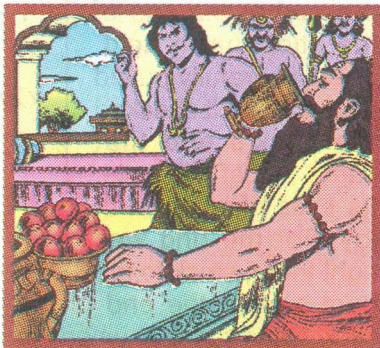
***bright clever
intelligent***

The opposite is *stupid*.

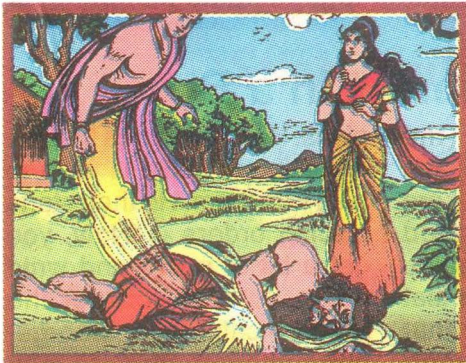


The demons were determined to end Kacha's menace once and for all. They captured him and burnt him to death. Then they collected his ashes and mixed them in a bowl of wine.

They then offered the wine to Shukracharya, who drank it unsuspectingly. They were happy with the success of their plan. Now that Kacha's remains were in Shukracharya's stomach, there was no way the guru could resurrect him – or so they thought.

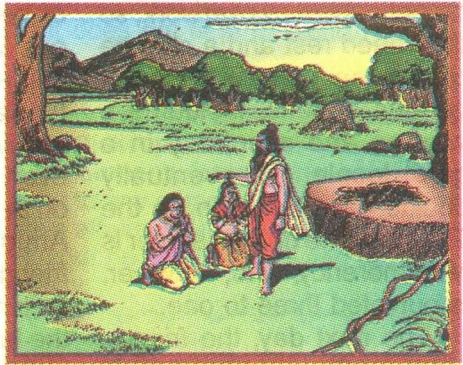


Soon after they had left, Devayani came running to her father and tearfully informed him of the trick they had played on him. Shukracharya realised that bringing Kacha back to life would result in his own death, for, Kacha could only come out of Shukracharya's body by tearing it open. There was only one way out.



Shukracharya first resurrected Kacha with the Sanjeevani hymn. He then taught him the secret hymn while he was still in his stomach. Kacha then emerged from Shukracharya's body, tearing it open and killing him.

Now that Kacha knew the secret Sanjeevani hymn, he used it to bring his guru back to life. The resurrected Shukracharya blessed his pupil. Thus, the demons' mischief had unwittingly helped Kacha achieve his objective!



It was now time for Kacha to return to the gods, as his mission was over. Devayani wished to marry him. But as Kacha had died and re-emerged from Shukracharya's body, he had in effect been reborn as his son. Thus, he was now a brother to Devayani, and could not marry her. She had to let him return home.

Four Friends in a Boat

Four friends – J. (the narrator), George, Harris, and Montmorency, their dog – are having an animated discussion about their health. Somehow, they conclude that they're all ill. They feel that their ailment has been brought about by overwork, so they need rest and a change of scene. They discuss various options, including a voyage and a holiday in a quiet locale, but eventually decide on a boat trip up the Thames. The only dissenter is Montmorency, who, however, is outvoted three to one.

The next day, the friends meet again to arrange their

plans. Harris declares that the first thing to settle is what to take with them. He then starts issuing orders – “Now, you get a bit of paper and write down, J., and you get the grocery catalogue, George, and somebody give me a bit of pencil, and then I'll make out a list.” The narrator snidely tells us that this is typical of Harris, who is ‘so ready to take the burden of everything himself, and put it on the backs of other people’. Amid much confusion, the friends finally start packing for their momentous journey. And the laugh riot gets under way in full swing!

One of the greatest comic masterpieces of all time, Jerome K. Jerome's *Three Men in a Boat (To Say Nothing of the Dog)* was first published in 1889. It has lost none of its freshness and humour over the years, and remains a best-seller.



Towards Better English

'Sticky' idioms

Do you use idiomatic expressions like 'stick out', 'stick around', 'stick your neck out', etc.? As you know, these are expressions whose meaning is different from the meaning of the individual words.

Quite often lawyers advise thus: 'If you testify in court, stick to your guns. Tell the same story.' What they mean is that one should not change what one believes (as true), and should be firm.

When someone asks, 'Will you stick up for me if I get into an argument?' it is a plea for support and encouragement. It is very common to say when something is out of place as something that sticks out like a sore thumb. When objects stick out like a sore thumb in a house, it means it does not fit in or blend with the environment of the house.

Why do people ask, 'Can you stick it out until six? Can you work until then?' It is because they want you to stay until you finish a particular task. The idiom 'stick up' is to take property or possessions from a person or company, for example unlawfully and usually forcibly. It can refer to any crime or heist. If you stick your neck out in other people's affairs, you run the risk of safety and so it is suggested to put your neck on the line and not stick your neck out to avoid a calamity.

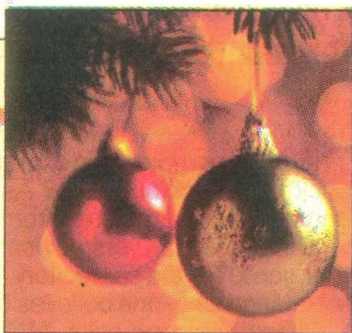
Persons who became words

Maverick

Samuel A. Maverick (1803-1870) was an American lawyer, who became Mayor of San Antonio, and a member of the state legislature. Later, after acquiring a herd of cattle in payment for a debt, he also started a ranch on his vast stretch of property. In those days, cattle were left to roam free. So, to avoid thefts and ownership disputes, ranch owners used to brand their cattle with their own special marks. However, Maverick, for some unknown reason, never followed this practice, but left his cattle unbranded. Soon, any unbranded animal came to be called a *maverick*, and before long it also applied to any politician who supposedly is not "branded" by special interests. Today, the term refers to any non-conformist or rebel.

Christmas Customs

Many Christmas customs are based on the birth of Christ. Some of these include the giving of Christmas presents because of the Wise Men, who brought presents to the baby Jesus, and the singing of Christmas carols based on Christ's birth, with figures of shepherds,



the Wise Men, and animals surrounding the baby Jesus.

But some of the ways people celebrate Christmas have nothing to do with Christ's birthday. Many bits of older holidays have crept into Christmas!

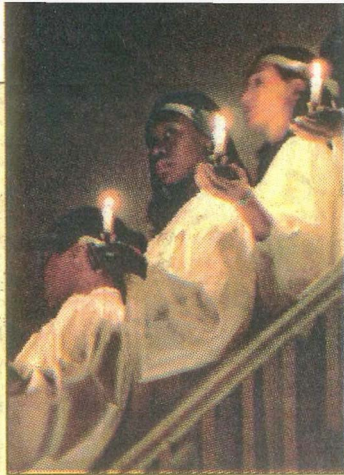
It wasn't until about 200 years after Christ's death that Christians even thought about celebrating his birth. No one knows the exact date of his birth. It is believed that December the 25th was chosen to turn people away from celebrating other holidays in this time of the year.

Saturnalia, was a holiday that the Romans celebrated in December. It was a time of feasting and parties. Also, in northern



Europe there was a holiday known as Yule. This was celebrated by making great fires. People would then dance around the fires, yelling for the winter to end.

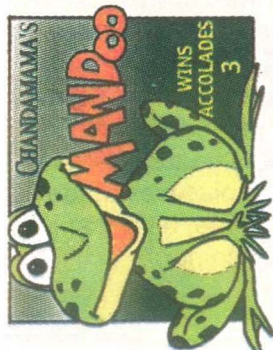
In time, Christmas took the place of these holidays. But people kept some of the old customs - such as burning a Yule log and having feasts and parties. The word Yule is still used as a name for



the Christmas season.

As time went on, new customs crept into Christmas. One was the Christmas tree, which was started in Germany. As the Germans settled in new lands they brought with them this tradition.

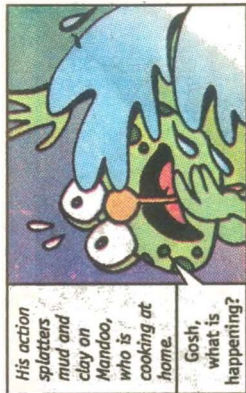
Last but not least is Saint Nick. A long time ago, a bishop named Nicholas lived in what is now the country of Turkey. No one knows much about him. There are stories that he often helped children in need. Many years after his death, Nicholas was made a saint. In time, he became the patron saint of children.



The young rat frantically thrusts his oar into the water to free his raft from the weeds.



His action splatters mud and clay on Mandoo, who is cooking at home.



Gosh, what is happening?

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Watch out, you fellow, you're breaking into my home.



The rat squeaks in alarm.

What's happening?



The frightened little rat is relieved to see Mandoo.

Sir, please help me! My raft is caught in the weeds.



However, Mandoo is in no mood to help a rat that has spoiled his house. He drags the raft into the lake.

Help, did you say? I could really help you with a few lessons!



Annoyed, he tries to smash up the raft.

Oh no, don't do that. I don't know swimming. And I'll be drowned!



The little rat is frightened to find a bullfrog croaking angrily at him.

Don't you ever try to mess up my affairs hereafter!

MANDOO-CD 23/3



Soon, more animals gather there. But nobody dares to get into the lake.

It's so dark and the lake is very deep.



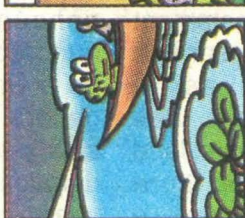
Meanwhile, the little rat's parents arrive at the banks of the lake. When they find their son caught in the weeds, they squeak in fear.

My little one, he's caught in the lake.



The mother rat hugs her son in joy, while the rat's father thanks Mandoo.

You're like a god to us. You saved our son's life.



Let me have a word with your parents on good manners.

Mandoo jumps on to the raft and goes to meet the rat's parents.

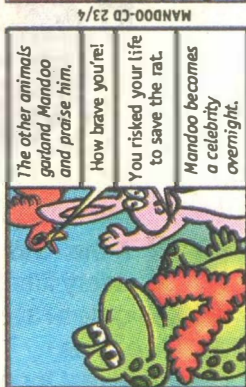


Mandoo's pushing and tugging frees the raft from the weeds.



In the next few days, animals stop coming to the lake for fear of being drowned. And Mandoo basks in the sun happily!

The End



The other animals gloat and praise him.

How brave you're!

You risked your life to save the rat.

Mandoo becomes a celebrity overnight.



No ma, that froggie threatened to drown me. He's a bad guy.

Ssshh! Sir, he's young and immature. Please don't pay any attention to his words.

Christmas - Sri Lanka



In the Old Testament every fiftieth year was celebrated as a Jubilee Year. There was complete rest for people, land and animals. Slaves were freed and lands were returned to the original owners. Jubilee Year was introduced to foster social justice and the redistribution of land and wealth. Similarly, early Christians celebrated every hundred years as Holy Years of Universal Forgiveness.

Combining these two traditions, Pope Boniface VIII

announced that every hundred years there would be a Universal Jubilee with general remission of sins and penances. Later the duration was reduced to fifty years and then to thirty-three years. This was further reduced to twenty five years in 1470.

Holy Year 2000 was celebrated all over the world as the Maha Jubilee Year. Many countries issued special stamps and souvenir sheets in the year 2000, at the time of Christmas. The souvenir sheet issued by Sri



Lanka depicts the Maha Jubilee Logo and two stamps.

Madonna and Child: Antigua

'Antigua and Barbuda' is the name of a group of three islands in the East Caribbean Sea. The third one Redonda is an uninhabited volcanic island. Antigua was discovered by Columbus in 1493, but it was colonized by the English in 1632. In 1967 it was made an associate state of U.K. From 1981 onwards it is an independent Republic within the British Commonwealth. During Christmas every year, Antigua issues a set of Madonna and Child stamps, depicting paintings of famous artists.

Melozza Paintings of Angels

Melozza da Forli was born in Forli, in Italy in 1438. He was one of the great fresco artists of the fifteenth century. At that time, the quarrelling rulers of small states in Italy were great patrons of art. The papacy was also supporting many artists; and hired some of them for work in chapels and cathedrals. During the years from 1473 to 1484 Melozza painted frescos in the library of Sixtus IV in the Vatican. In 1998 the Vatican issued a set of stamps on 'musical angels' by Melozza.



New Year Puzzle

Four couples residing in Gandhinagar Colony went out, separately, on New Year's Eve. While one couple attended a New Year Eve bash at a friend's house, another went to a party hosted by a nearby 5-star hotel. Yet another couple went to the New Year Carnival in the city, while the fourth opted to watch the fireworks display. Determine the full name of each couple and the event they went to for New Year's Eve.

1. Gopal, whose surname was not Sinha, and his wife didn't go to the hotel party. Ashok's surname was not Gupta. Tushar was not Hema's husband.



2. The Goels went to the hotel party.

3. Mahesh and his wife, Brinda, whose surname was not Bhalla, didn't go into the city to see the fireworks.

4. Maya, who was not married to Mr. Goel, enjoyed the city Carnival.

5. Ashok's wife was not Maya. Tushar and his wife went to their friend's bash.

6. Neena Sinha didn't go to the city fireworks display.

Solution			
Man's name	Wife's name	Surname	Event attended
Tushar	Neena	Sinha	Friend's New Year bash
Gopal	Maya	Gupta	Carnival
Mahesh	Brinda	Goel	Hotel party
Ashok	Hema	Bhalla	Fireworks display

PADMANABHAPURAM PALACE

Padmanabhapuram, in Kanyakumari district is host to a magnificent palace, a fine example of Kerala architecture. The complex consists of 14 palaces, spread over 6.5 acres and linked by a maze of corridors, colonnades, verandahs, and courts. The massive walls are 30 ft. high. Entry is through the *Padippura* (main gate), an essential feature of any old Kerala house. The elaborately carved wooden ceiling and pillars of the entrance hall are eye-catching.



On the verandah to the right is a granite cot, once used by the rulers, and a throne in Chinese style. A narrow wooden staircase leads to the *Mantrasala* or council chamber on the first floor of the entrance hall. The king used to meet his ministers and dignitaries here.

The third court marks the beginning of the private chambers. The *Upparikka Malika* (meaning 'upper storey'), a four-storeyed building, served as the king's quarters. It had a treasury on the ground floor, the royal bedroom on the second floor, and the meditation chamber and shrine on the fourth floor. The *Sapramancham*, the king's four-poster bed, is made of 67 different pieces of medicinal wood. It is believed to be a gift from the Dutch East India Company in the 16th century.

The Saraswati temple lies to the east of the *Upparika Malika*. Even today during Navaratri, Goddess Saraswati worshipped at the temple of the main palace in Thiruvananthapuram, is consecrated and taken out in procession from Padmanabhapuram. On the west is the most beautiful part of the Palace – the Navaratri Mandapam, famous for its excellent woodcraft.

Answers

SLYLOCK FOX

Solution: The only way Reeky could have come ten miles in fifteen minutes is if he were travelling at an average speed of forty miles per hour.

TRY IT..

Page 16

The last piece.

Page 72

Girl's mouth, leaf, page, bird, bow and freckles.

Page 79

Numbers 2 and 4.

TRUE OR FALSE

1) True 2) True 3) False. Cows clean their noses with their tongues. 4) True.

QUIZ OF THE MONTH

1. Rene Descartes
2. Green Belt Movement
3. A tooth of Lord Buddha
4. South Africa
5. King Fredrick II of Prussia
6. A forest giraffe found only in Congo
7. 13
8. Munadapotas
9. John Dryden
10. "Songs My Mother Taught Me"
11. King Theodoric

12. Shahjahanabad
13. John Callcott Horsley for Sir Henry Cole in 1843

PUZZLES FOR YOU (Young Talents)

1. Billy was a fish!
2. Because 7 8 9!!! (7 ate 9)
3. The same colour of your eyes!!! (You are the bus driver.)

CROSSWORD

Across: 1. Moby Dick 5. Oven
6. Skill 9. Petal 12. Arab
13. Insomnia

Down: 1. Milk 2. Bell 3. Invent
4. Kennel 6. Safari 7. Ideals
8. Lip 10. Elan
11. Alva

BRAIN BOGGLERS

1. The man takes the cat across and goes back to get the mouse.
2. The man then takes the mouse across and returns with the cat.
3. The man leaves the cat on the shore and takes the dog across. He leaves the dog with the mouse.
4. The man goes back to get the cat and all of the animals have made it across the river!



Your Feedback, please

From the very launch of the *Children's Digest*, the appreciation and support from our readers have been overwhelming. As our circulation increases day by day, we are eager to know whether our valuable readers are really happy with the contents of the magazine. To help us get correct feedback from you, please fill in the details given below and mail to us as early as possible.

1. Name..... Age.....
2. Frequency of reading *Children's Digest*
☐ Regular ☐ Often ☐ Rare
3. Opinion about the contents
☐ Very Good ☐ Good ☐ Satisfactory
☐ Unsatisfactory
4. Opinion about the language
☐ Simple ☐ Very Simple
☐ Hard to follow
5. Opinion about the illustrations
☐ Very Good ☐ Good ☐ Satisfactory
☐ Poor
6. Opinion about the picture stories and cartoons
☐ Very Good ☐ Good ☐ Satisfactory
☐ Poor
7. Opinion about the colour and quality of printing
☐ Very Good ☐ Good ☐ Satisfactory
☐ Poor

8. Opinion about the price
☐ High ☐ Reasonable ☐ Low

9. Best column in the Children's Digest

10. Least interesting column in the Children's Digest

11. General opinion about the magazine

☐ Very Good ☐ Good

☐ Satisfactory ☐ Poor

12. Motivating factor behind reading the Children's Digest

☐ Parents ☐ Teachers ☐ Friends

13. Promptness in getting the magazine

☐ Very Punctual ☐ Punctual

☐ Received very late

14. Apart from the Children's Digest, which is the other children's magazine you read frequently? Which do you prefer most?

15. Any further comments (Please attach additional sheet if necessary).

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